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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE HEALTH OF
WEST HARTLEPOOL
FOR THE YEAR 1959



H. C. MILLIGAN

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
AND CHIEF WELFARE OFFICER

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Inhabited Houses No. of	..	19
Maternal Mortality	..	20, 30
Maternity and Child Welfare—		
Ante-natal Care	..	45
Ante-natal Clinic	..	49, 50
Day Nursery	..	51
Dental Treatment	..	50, 51
Feeding—Methods of	..	46
Infant Welfare Centres	..	45, 46, 47
Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948	..	51
Nursing Homes	..	51
Unmarried Mothers—Care of	..	51
Welfare Foods	..	48, 49
Medical Examinations	..	85
Mental Health	9, 10, 11, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95	
Midwifery	..	52, 53, 54, 55
Morbidity Statistics	..	43, 44
Neo-natal Mortality	..	19, 23, 24
Nursing Equipment—Provision of		81
Peri-natal Mortality	..	20, 21, 22
Population	..	5, 19, 20
Post Neo-natal Mortality	19, 20, 23, 24	
Premature Births	..	6, 21
Problem Families	..	87, 88
Product of the Penny Rate	..	19

Rateable Value	19	Staff	13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
Sanitary circumstances—		Stillbirths	6, 19, 20, 22, 25, 26
Abattoir	135, 136	Tuberculosis—	
Agriculture Act, 1956	124	B.C.G. Vaccination	9, 78
Animals—Diseases of	116	Death and Death Rates	76
Ashpits	110	Notified Cases	76, 77
Atmospheric Pollution	125, 126, 127	Report—Dr. J. B. Robinson	76
Bye-laws—Premises controlled by	123	Survey of Work	76
Caravans	123	Vaccination—	
Certificates of Disrepair	15	Poliomyelitis	8, 9, 66, 67, 69, 70
Condemned Food	129	Smallpox	65
Disinfection and Disinfestation	110	Venereal Disease	37, 38
Environmental Health	11	Vital Statistics	5, 19, 20
Factories Acts	137	Welfare Committee	14
Food & Drugs	115, 118, 119, 120, 121, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134	Welfare Services—	
Food Hygiene	120, 121	Burials—Section 50, National Assistance Act, 1948	100
Housing	111, 112	Care and After-care—Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946	100
Ice-cream	119	Flatlets	99
Improvement Grants	115	Handicapped persons—	
Infectious Diseases	123	Blind and Partially sighted	101, 102, 103, 104
Knacker's Yard	116	Deaf and Dumb	104, 105, 106
Legal Proceedings	114, 117	Epileptics	106
Milk & Dairies	118, 119, 120, 121	General Classes	106
Pet Animals' Act	124	Hostel Improvements	98
Prevention of damage by Pests	128	Protection of property	100
Rag Flock Act	124	Removals — Section 47 National Assistance Act, 1948	100
Rent Act, 1957	115	Residential Accommodation	11, 12, 96, 97, 98
Report	107	Temporary Accommodation	12, 13, 98, 99
Sanitary Defects	109	Visiting	100
Sanitary Inspection	108	W.V.S. Meals on Wheels	100
Shops Act, 1950	124		
Slaughterhouses	116		
Slum Clearance	112, 113, 114		
Swimming baths	124		
Water Supply	122		
School Health Service — Annual Report	139-181		



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REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1959

HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT,
VICTORIA ROAD,
WEST HARTLEPOOL.
MAY, 1960.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of West Hartlepool.*

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of West Hartlepool for the year 1959.

VITAL STATISTICS

The vital statistics for West Hartlepool for 1959 show that the improvement noted in 1958 has been maintained. The crude birth rate at 21.34 per thousand population is virtually unchanged and the crude death rate at 11.31 per thousand population is slightly down on last year.

The estimated population is now 75,400, which represents an increase of 970 over the 1958 population. This increase is slightly more than the excess number of births over deaths.

The infant mortality rate at 20.51 per thousand live births is the lowest ever recorded and is actually, for the first time, below the national average for England and Wales at 22 per thousand live births. For several years now the infant mortality rate has been the subject of considerable comment in this Annual Report, and therefore it will suffice to emphasise some of the points which have been made on numerous occasions previously. Since the number of deaths upon which the West Hartlepool rate is based is comparatively small, one can expect considerable fluctuations from year to year. Nevertheless, the infant mortality rate prior to 1958 was consistently high; indeed, on only one occasion, in 1951, was the infant mortality below 40 per thousand live births. During the period 1950 to 1958 the infant mortality for England and Wales declined from 29.6 in 1950 to 23.1 in 1957 and 22.6 in 1958. During the past two years the West Hartlepool rate declined substantially, becoming approximate to, and now slightly below, the national average. It is doubtful, however, if the 1959 figure represents more than an exceptionally favourable year. We may expect fluctuations to occur in future years but there are some solid grounds for hope that the consistently high rate will become a feature of the past.

Last year some reasons were advanced to explain the fall in the infant mortality rate and these reasons are still valid. We were fortunate that the appointment of Dr. Welch, the Consultant Pædiatrician to the Hartlepoons Group was made in 1958, and he took up duty in October of that year. The ready availability of specialist pædiatric opinion and the improvement in hospital accommodation for the care of premature infants which it is anticipated this appointment will stimulate, should further strengthen the hospital service in this important field. The improvement in the care of premature infants now plays an increasing part in the reduction of infant deaths under four weeks, and it is interesting to note that although the number of prematurely-born infants rose in 1959 to 135 as compared with 111 in 1958, this was more than balanced by an improvement in the survival rate.

A more intractable factor is the prevention of premature births, which calls for greater co-operation on the part of medical and obstetric services and the health education of the expectant mother.

There was during 1959 a slight fall in the number of stillbirths, the rate showing a slight improvement from 24.4 to 22.8 which was still slightly above the national average figure for England and Wales of 20.7.

The improvement in the infant mortality figures for 1959 is reflected not only in the neo-natal mortality, that is to say deaths in the first month of life, but also in the post neo-natal mortality, that is to say deaths within the period one month to one year. In the case of the post neo-natal rate, there has been an overall trend towards its reduction which has been accentuated over the past two years. This figure is still above the national average, but the fact of its steady improvement points to the improvement in social conditions i.e. the continued success of the slum clearance programme.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious diseases were of greater prevalence in 1959 than in 1958. There was a rise in the number of cases of scarlet fever notified, although this was of a mild type. The total notifications were 49 in 1959 as compared with 32 in 1958 and 10 in 1957. Only one case received hospital treatment and no deaths were attributable to this disease.

There was again no case of diphtheria, the last notification being received in 1952.

1959 proved to be an epidemic year as far as measles was concerned, a total of 1,326 being notified. This figure was the highest since 1941.

In 1957, which was also an epidemic year, the total number of cases was 1,072. 54 notifications were in respect of children under one year, and here again, no deaths were attributable to this disease.

One case of paralytic poliomyelitis occurred in a child aged six, who had not been vaccinated. There was slight paralysis affecting the right arm but the child made a satisfactory recovery.

In the early weeks of 1959 there was a considerable outbreak of food poisoning due to salmonella infection. Although only a total of 15 notifications was received, it was clear that a considerable number of people had been infected with the disease, which was caused by the use of contaminated egg products in a bakery in another town. The outbreak coincided with the traditional festive season of the New Year and the increased consumption of cakes and pastries at that particular time led to a wider dissemination of the infection. As far as West Hartlepool was concerned, it was necessary to sample cakes on sale and place food handlers under surveillance. Six were excluded from work until pronounced free from infection. The outbreak was one which involved the whole of Tees-side, where the bakery's products are widely distributed. There were no deaths reported.

Towards the end of the summer a diagnosis of a case of typhoid fever was made in retrospect. The case was a young woman who went on holiday to Southern Europe on a coach tour. Whilst abroad she developed symptoms which did not seriously incapacitate her and she was able to continue her holiday. When the party returned to England, some 11 members, whose homes were in different parts of the country, were subsequently admitted to hospital and a diagnosis of typhoid established. Serological tests showed that the West Hartlepool woman, had in fact, had a mild attack of typhoid but she was now clinically and bacteriologically free from infection. It was fortunate that she was not employed in the food trade. The moral from all this is simply that persons visiting countries whose standards of hygiene are less strict than our own should take advantage of the benefit of anti-typhoid immunisation, particularly if they are normally employed as food handlers.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES.

It is gratifying to report that steady progress was made throughout the year in all sections of the local health service. It will be seen from the statistics of births that some 30% now take place in the South Ward, mainly on the Owton Manor Estate. Pressure of work therefore on midwives in the southern part of the town has been heavy for some time, and during the year the Council approved the establishment of an additional midwife to cope with the work in the southern area.

We have been aware for some time now of the inadequacy of the clinic premises serving the Owton Manor Estate and we therefore welcome the proposal to establish a combined Community Centre/Clinic and Branch Library in the area, believing that the increased accommodation will give greater facilities for group discussion on health education.

The purchase of a 16 mm. film projector has proved a great asset to the Department and it has been possible to show suitable films at Child Welfare Clinics and to encourage group discussion amongst mothers and thus encourage a greater knowledge and understanding in family health matters.

The work of the Health Visitors has been broadened during the year by the combination of Health Visiting and School Nursing into a unified service. This combination anticipated by some three months the appearance of Ministry of Health Circular 26/59, and it was made possible by the resignation of the Senior School Nurse on marriage, and provision of additional clerical assistance at the School Clinic. The method by which this combination was achieved is set out in the general body of this report and it will suffice to mention the principal reasons which guided the Committee in combining these services.

It is highly desirable that the Health Visitors engaged in the visiting and health education of mothers and children under five should be able to continue their work whilst the child is at school, and the experience and knowledge thus gained by the District Health Visitor can be made available to teachers in the junior and infant schools. It is deemed desirable, therefore, that the area of the Health Visitor's district should as far as possible be co-terminous with the catchment area of one or more infant schools. In this way the Health Visitor can retain her links with children during their school life and play a useful part in strengthening the links between the home and school. In addition to visiting schools regularly, the Health Visitors now attend routine medical inspections of children in infant and junior schools and undertake any follow-up work arising from these examinations. She is also available to assist the teacher and advise on health education in schools.

When the change was made in the record-keeping of the Home Nurses, a punch card system was introduced and as a result, much more information is now available regarding the types of illness and social circumstances of cases dealt with. It should be possible, therefore, to assess more clearly the value of the Home Nursing Service in preventing unnecessary admission to hospital and facilitating the early discharge of hospital cases.

In the field of vaccination and immunisation the outstanding feature was the increase in the volume of work against poliomyelitis. After a somewhat slow start the demand for vaccination rose sharply in the 15-25

age group of the population. This rise in demand, triggered-off by the death of an international footballer, drove home the message that poliomyelitis does strike at the young and physically fit adult. Almost overnight, Health Departments in every part of the country were inundated with requests for vaccination and in a very short time it became clear that the public demand was such that the operation had to be treated as one of acute emergency. The result was that a considerable amount of other work had to be suspended, the clerical staff had to be mobilised for the work of record-keeping, and mobile teams of doctors, nurses and clerical staff prepared to conduct sessions in all parts of the town, both from local authority premises and at private industrial concerns, to ensure that wherever there were sufficient numbers wishing to avail themselves of protection, the demand would be met. The result of all this was that during the year a total of 9,581 persons received two injections by local authority staff and a further 1,036 by their own doctors. Of this total of 10,617, some 5,593 were in the 15-25 age group. In addition a further 5,334 received a third injection of vaccine.

It is with considerable satisfaction that we report that during the year ambulances were fitted with radio control. It is too early as yet to give an accurate picture as to the saving involved, but already the Ambulance Officer reports that the ambulances are more readily deployed and the waiting time of patients reduced.

Steady progress has been made in the prevention and after-care of tuberculosis. I am greatly indebted to Dr. J. B. Robinson for his co-operation at all times, particularly in the investigation of cases involving schoolchildren. There is still a small infective pool of chronic cases in the area, some of whom require close and frequent surveillance, but the overall picture gives grounds for reasonable expectation that over the next 20 years the scourge of tuberculosis will have been completely eradicated.

It is welcome to note that parents are taking a greater interest in the value of vaccination with B.C.G. and the protection which it gives to the young, susceptible, adolescent population. It is the practice to offer protection to children in their fourteenth year and of a total of 1,351 pupils to whom the test was offered, some 950 accepted. Of this total, some 822 were found to be susceptible and therefore eligible for vaccination. This total of 822 compares with 575 in 1958. The level of protection against tuberculosis obtained would appear to last for at least some seven years, and therefore, it is highly desirable that a wider acceptance of B.C.G. vaccination be encouraged.

MENTAL HEALTH.

Considerable thought has been given during the year to the expansion of the Mental Health Service towards the new horizons foreshadowed by the Mental Health Act of 1959. Much has already been written and spoken

on the new legislation and therefore only a brief comment is necessary so that local developments can be put in their proper perspective. Under the new Act an impetus will be given to the establishment of Psychiatric Units within the curtilage of General Hospitals. Admission to such Psychiatric Units or to Psychiatric Hospitals will be largely informal; that is to say, without compulsion or the intervention of a lay magistrate. Emphasis will be placed on reception, care and treatment rather than certification and detention. No doubt, eventually custodial care in hospital will become a thing of the past since the local authorities' responsibilities require them to provide hostels for such cases that are no longer deemed to be in need of active medical treatment.

We are fortunate in West Hartlepool insofar as we have a Psychiatric Unit established within the curtilage of the General Hospital, and in its efforts to improve facilities at the General Hospital, the Hartlepool Hospitals Management Committee is deserving of all possible support. A good working relationship has been established between the Consultants at the hospital, Dr. M. M. Lidgate and Dr. W. A. Nicholson, the general practitioners and the Mental Welfare Officers in this Department, and we look forward to even more close and fruitful co-operation in the future.

In an endeavour to close the gap between hospital treatment and after-care, which is the responsibility of the local health authority, the Health Committee and the Hospital Management Committee have approved the joint appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker. Unfortunately the demand for such highly trained personnel greatly exceeds the supply and it has been impossible to fill this appointment. Nevertheless, the establishment of such a post indicates the acceptance on all sides of the need for continuity of care and supervision when the time comes for patients to leave hospital and re-establish themselves within the community. An improved after-care service, including the establishment of a Psychiatric Social Club has also been under consideration.

As far as the mentally sub-normal are concerned, further steps have been taken to develop and improve the services concerned with training. The separation of the junior and adult classes last year anticipated Ministry of Health Circular 9/59 which recommended the development of Adult Centres separate from those of juniors. As has been said on numerous occasions, this separation has been to the benefit of the juniors insofar as a greater amount of staff time can be given to their training and social development. The Committee have reviewed the facilities for adult training and during the year a small temporary building which was erected beside the Junior Centre has been equipped and will cater for the needs of some of the female adults during the intermediate period until a larger centre

is built. The Committee have approved in principle the provision of an Adult Training Centre which eventually should cater for approximately 100 persons. The work undertaken at the Adult Centre has been diversified and an approach has been made to private industry to allow small, repetitive jobs requiring little skill to be undertaken by suitably trained persons. It is this participation by the sub-normal in general industry which must be fostered as the most promising line of development and this, of course, must be matched by an appreciation by the public at large of the part which the mentally-handicapped can play in the community. The existing provision and the extent to which further provision will be required has been very fully explored during the year.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

In the field of environmental hygiene it is gratifying once again to report that steady progress was made on the slum clearance programme. The removal of the worst slum areas has now largely been dealt with, and in the further clearance programme, which will commence in 1964, there will be a change of emphasis from the clearance of real slums to that of substandard houses which, by reason of their structural condition and their congestion, cannot be improved. The introduction of the standard improvement grant should make some contribution to the improvement of properties whose life expectancy is 15 years or more, but it should not be forgotten that substandard housing is something which will always be with us since, as the standard of living rises, what are regarded as luxuries now will be regarded as the necessary amenities of the future.

It is disappointing to report that no progress was made during the year towards establishing a smoke control area. It was clear that the opposition to the Health Committee's proposal to seek provisional approval to the establishment of such an area was largely based on ignorance of the nature and method of operation. As a result of some considerable publicity which was given during the year, it is now felt that wider knowledge has now been gained, though there is still a great deal of educative work to be done.

WELFARE SERVICES.

It is pleasing to record that important steps have been taken during 1959 to remedy some of the shortcomings which have been commented upon in previous years. The installation of a lift at Briarfields Hostel, together with the new hostel building on the Owton Manor Estate, will greatly improve the amount of ground floor accommodation available in residential homes for elderly persons. The additional places at Owton Manor will also be welcome at a time when pressure on this type of accommodation continues to be high.

The establishment of the scheme of regular visiting of old people which was commenced in 1958 has been expanded and now caters for over 700 people or approximately 10% of the population over 65. The aims of such a service which I outlined in last year's Annual Report, are being gradually fulfilled insofar as greater knowledge has been made available to the Health Department of the needs of old people living in their own homes. It will perhaps serve a useful purpose if I outlined the way in which this knowledge is collected. Reliance is placed on Health Department staff providing information on the needs of old people whom they meet in the course of their duties, together with information which we receive from other statutory and voluntary bodies. A register is being built up in the Department of old people living alone, of aged couples where one or both are seriously handicapped, and other aged and handicapped persons. The Health Visitor makes an initial visit to assess the situation and reports to the Welfare Department on the needs of cases visited. This is co-ordinated by the Lay Administrative Officer in the Department, who in turn contacts the appropriate specialist agencies, such as the Blind or Deaf Welfare Officers, the Consultant Geriatrician at the hospital, the W.V.S., etc. Follow-up visiting is carried out by the Council's Geriatric Visitors, who keep the Lay Administrative Officer continuously informed of the situation. In this way the extent to which such services as the 'Meals on Wheels' and the Home Help Service meet the needs of the aged can be kept under continuous review. The information obtained has proved valuable to the hospitals in providing the social background of cases admitted to hospital and the facilities likely to be available to old persons discharged from the Geriatric Unit. Similarly, the waiting list for hostels, flatlets, old people's bungalows etc., can be kept up-to-date and priority given according to need.

It should not be forgotten that an acute social problem may develop very rapidly through the death or illness of an old person and the availability of up-to-date information on the social needs of the aged is a pre-requisite to effective social action.

Largely as a result of this increased visiting service the 'Meals on Wheels' Service has been under considerable pressure and to assist the W.V.S. in coping with this increased demand, the Committee have authorised the purchase of an additional van which has been brought into use early this year.

During the year 19 women and 44 children were admitted to 118 Burbank Street, a hostel providing temporary accommodation for homeless families. The circumstances under which these people came into the hostel are given in the general body of the report. In addition to evictions because of non-payment of rent, cases were admitted who were homeless

as a result of family dispute—in some cases with their in-laws, and in some cases between husband and wife. It is our opinion that in its first year this hostel has fully justified its existence and undoubtedly prevented the break-up of some families.

STAFF.

No statement of the work of the Department in 1959 would be complete without reference to the fire which seriously damaged Durham House in the early morning of Saturday, the 17th January, 1959. Approximately one-eighth of the total office accommodation was destroyed and considerable dislocation was incurred by having to move staff to other accommodation whilst repair work was being undertaken. The acquisition of Eskdale House, Victoria Road, has meant that the Children's Department could be accommodated in the ground floor there and the first floor together with the offices which they vacated in the Health Department will mean that when the fire damage has been repaired, approximately 30% more office accommodation will be available for the various sections of the Health and Welfare Department.

The difficulties for the staff during the year have been quite considerable and I wish to place on record my sincere thanks to them for the energetic way in which they have tackled a considerable increase in the volume of work under very difficult circumstances.

Miss Stott, the Home Help Organiser, had unfortunately to resign her appointment in July because of ill-health, and her successor, Mrs. E. McCabe, took up duty at the beginning of 1960. Miss Stott had been a hard-working and valuable colleague throughout her service in the Department and had been responsible for the building-up of a large and efficient Home Help Service. We all hope that she will eventually be restored to health.

Once again I must record my appreciation of the services of Mr. R. Emerson, Chief Public Health Inspector, and Mr. J. S. Holland, Lay Administrative Officer, who have tackled an increased volume of work with unfailing energy and enthusiasm.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for the encouragement and support which I have received throughout the year and to the other Chief Officers of the Corporation I am also greatly indebted for their assistance and advice.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. MILLIGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1959-60

COUNCILLOR BEST	COUNCILLOR McCANN
COUNCILLOR MRS. BREWARD	COUNCILLOR McCRAINOR
COUNCILLOR CATOR (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	COUNCILLOR MODRAL
COUNCILLOR CRISP (<i>Chairman</i>)	COUNCILLOR POTTER
COUNCILLOR ILES	COUNCILLOR MRS. TUSON
COUNCILLOR MRS. MANN	

DRS. CRABB AND WELCH

WELFARE COMMITTEE

1959-60

ALDERMAN HOGG	COUNCILLOR McCRAINOR
COUNCILLOR BEST	(<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)
COUNCILLOR MRS. BREWARD	COUNCILLOR POTTER
COUNCILLOR CATOR	COUNCILLOR MRS. TUSON
COUNCILLOR CRISP (<i>Chairman</i>)	MRS. CATTERICK
COUNCILLOR ILES	MRS. CRISP
COUNCILLOR MRS. MANN	MRS. HOPKINS
COUNCILLOR McCANN	MRS. WILLIAMS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.
PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, Principal School Medical Officer.

H. C. MILLIGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health—

S. W. W. TERRY, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health—

JANET MARGARET BISSET, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

JEAN FLOYD FARQUHAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Part-time)

Chest Physician—

J. B. ROBINSON, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Consultant Obstetrician—

L. A. CRUTTENDEN, M.R.C.O.G.

Ophthalmic Surgeon (Part-time)—

CLAUD J. SHARP, M.B., CH.B., D.O.

Orthoptist—

VERONICA NELSON, D.B.O.

Aural Specialist—

L. V. ARUNDEL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.F.P.S. (Glas.)

School Dentists—

MISS M. I. MANLEY, L.D.S.—(Principal School Dental Officer)

A. G. WILDGOOSE, L.D.S.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Inspector under Food & Drugs Acts—

R. EMERSON (1, 2, 3, 4)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—

J. JONES (1, 2, 3, 4)

Public Health Inspectors and Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts—

H. H. BOWES (1, 2, 3)

D.H. GILBERTSON (1, 2, 3)

A. BARKER (1, 2)

J. F. BURN (1, 2)

R. HESLOP (1)

Commenced 3/7/59

Pupil Public Health Inspectors—

R. HESLOP

Resigned 2/7/59

T. CUDLIP

A. THOMPSON

Commenced 7/9/59

Key to Professional Qualifications.

1. Statutory Certificate.
2. Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of Royal Society of Health.
3. Smoke Inspector's Certificate of Royal Society of Health.
4. Sanitary Science Certificate of Royal Society of Health.

*Lay Administrative Officer

J. S. HOLLAND

*Deputy Lay Administrative Officer

C. W. SMITH

*Also Duly Authorised Officer and Welfare Officer.

Health Visitors—

MISS M. A. FIELDS	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Superintendent Health Visitor
MISS A. S. BAGSHAW	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MRS. M. DOUGLAS	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MRS. D. USHER	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
MISS A. M. NORTHEY	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MISS C. M. NIXON	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MRS. M. A. BODDY	S.R.N., R.F.N. S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MISS A. I. SMEATHAM	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MISS P. McCLELLAND	S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.
MISS E. HONOUR	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (obtained 26/9/59)
MISS A. P. PHILLIP	S.R.N., S.C.M., Trainee Health Visitor Commenced 1/9/59
MISS O. MAVIN	S.R.N., R.S.C.N., Trainee Health Visitor Commenced 1/9/59

Municipal Midwives—

MRS E. GALLOWAY	No. 93510 S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
MRS. M. BRAND	No. 98274 S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
MRS. K. F. GALLIMORE	No. 90631 S.R.N., S.C.M.
MRS. W. PICKERING	No. 74766 S.R.N., S.C.M.
MRS. L. R. WALKER	No. 104224 S.R.N., S.C.M.
MRS. J. TURNBULL	No. 76151 (Gen. Trained) S.C.M.
MRS. BARNETT	No. 95014 S.C.M.
MRS. V. HAWLEY	No. 114600 S.R.N., S.C.M.
MISS V. A. CONNORS	No. 154380 S.R.N., S.C.M. Commenced 1/10/59
MRS. O. KAY	No. 67863 S.C.M. (Relief Midwife) Commenced 1/6/59 Resigned 30/9/59

Home Nurses—

MRS. I. HESLOP	S.R.N.	
MRS. E. M. GARDINER	S.R.N., S.C.M.	Resigned 31/5/59
MRS. M. LISTER	S.R.N.	Resigned 28/2/59
MRS. P. MARTIN	S.R.N.	
MRS. J. WRIGLEY	S.R.N.	
MRS. M. A. METCALFE	S.R.N.	Commenced 5/1/59
MRS. I. RICHARDSON	S.R.N.	Commenced 23/3/59
MRS. M. L. HYDE	S.R.N.	Commenced 18/6/59

School Nurses—

Miss E. WITTEN	S.R.N. R.S.C.N., Senior School Nurse	Resigned 16/8/59
Miss O. MAVIN	S.R.N., R.S.C.N.	Resigned 31/8/59
Miss I. S. HIND,	S.R.N., S.C.M.	
Miss M. P. LOWRY,	S.R.N., S.C.M.	
MRS. D. L. HARBRON	S.R.N., S.C.M. (Part-time 6/11ths)	

Nurse Almoner—

MRS. S. LAMBERT (Gen. Trained)

Home Help Organiser—

Miss A. STOTT Resigned 8/10/59

Matron, Victoria Road Day Nursery—

MRS. M. E. HUTCHINSON S.R.N.

Warden, Hazelhurst Hostel—

Miss M. H. RUTTER

Warden, Fairlawn Hostel—

MRS. S. MUSGROVE

Superintendent, Briarfields Hostel—

T. MORGAN

Superintendent, Dinsdale Lodge—

G. S. WIDDOWFIELD

Warden, Aged Persons' Flatlets—

MRS. E. M. ARMSTRONG

Warden, 118 Burbank Street—

MRS. M. A. COX

Supervisor, Junior Training Centre—

MRS. L. M. DUNNING

Assistant Supervisor, Adult Training Centre—

MRS. U. DAWE (Part-time) Commenced 7/1/59

Senior Clerk—

W. USHER

Clerks and Shorthand/Typists—

G. HEAL

*D. J. HEYWOOD

J. W. THOMPSON

Miss L. M. L. JARROLD

Commenced 19/1/59

*Also Duly Authorised Officer and Welfare Officer

MISS J. KINGSTON	
MRS. M. ANDERSON	
MRS. E. M. KNOX	
MRS. B. HARBRON	
MISS K. EVANS	
MISS J. A. CROSBY	Resigned 31/8/59
MRS. M. HARVEY	Commenced 5/10/59
MISS J. RYAN	
MRS E. I. VEITCH	
MISS H. CAIRNS	
MRS. J. SYRES (nee BRADFORD)	Resigned 30/11/59
MISS H. DOLPHIN	
MISS D. HOLMAN	
MISS A. ATKINSON	Resigned 28/11/59
MISS B. M. NICHOL	Commenced 21/12/59
MISS M. R. GRATTON	Commenced 9/2/59

Ambulance Officer—
J. ATKINSON

Abattoir Superintendent—
W. GRAZIER

Public Analyst (part-time)—
W. GORDON CAREY F.R.I.C.

Rodent Officer—
D. S. HASTINGS

Assistant Rodent Officer—
J. W. MERRITT

Geriatric Visitors (Part-time)—	
MRS. D. E. CRUTTENDEN	Commenced 15/10/59
MRS. E. LAURIE	Commenced 29/10/59

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY

Area (Acres)	4,976
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate, 1959)	75,400
No. of Inhabited Houses on 31st December, 1959 according to the Rate Books	23,211
Rateable Value (1st April, 1959)	£892,039
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (31st March, 1959)	£3,080

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births	— Legitimate	785	748	1,533
	Illegitimate	42	34	76
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTAL	827	782	1,609

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Estimated Resident Population . . Crude	21.34
Adjusted	20.70

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births.....	4.72
---	------

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Stillbirths	— Legitimate	16	19	35
	Illegitimate	—	2	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTAL	16	21	37

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	22.48
--	-------

Total Live and Stillbirths.....	1646
---------------------------------	------

Deaths of Infants		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
under one year of age —	Legitimate	15	16	31
	Illegitimate	1	1	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTAL	16	17	33

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births.....	20.51
--	-------

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	20.22
--	-------

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	26.32
---	-------

Deaths of Infants		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
under 4 weeks of age	— Legitimate	10	11	21
	Illegitimate	—	1	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTAL	10	12	22

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	13.67
--	-------

Deaths of Infants under		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
the age of one week	— Legitimate	9	6	15
	Illegitimate	—	1	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTAL	9	7	16

Early Neo-natal mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births.....			9.94
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			32.20
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)			1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths.....			0.61
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
TOTAL DEATHS (All Ages)	444	409	853
Death Rate per 1,000 Estimated Resident Population	Crude		11.31
	Adjusted		13.70
Area Comparability Factors.....	Births		0.97
	Deaths		1.21

POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of population in the County Borough at mid-year 1959 was 75,400, compared with 74,430 in 1958. This represents an increase of 970 which is the highest for some years.

The natural increase of population, that is the excess of births over deaths was 756, only slightly lower than the figure of 761 for the previous year.

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS.

There was a total of 1,609 live births registered during the year equivalent to a crude birth rate of 21.34. The comparable rate for 1958 was 21.63, although the total number of births was only one more than in the year under review.

When multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor the adjusted rate for 1959 is 20.70, which can be compared with the rate for England and Wales of 16.5.

In the table below the birth rates for the previous ten years are shown :

BIRTH RATES — 1950-59

YEARS	WEST HARTLEPOOL		ENGLAND & WALES BIRTH RATE
	No. of Births	Birth Rate per 1000 Pop.	
1950	1,360	18.77	15.8
1951	1,421	19.67	15.5
1952	1,435	19.90	15.3
1953	1,385	19.15	15.5
1954	1,344	18.54	15.2
1955	1,459	20.03	15.0
1956	1,496	20.43	15.6
1957	1,596	21.59	16.1
1958	1,610	21.63	16.4
1959	1,609	21.34	16.5

The ward distribution of the births was as follows :—

Ward	No. of Births	Percentage of Total Births
North	138	8.6
West	154	9.6
Park	150	9.3
South-West	123	7.6
Central	254	15.8
North-East	124	7.7
Seaton	183	11.4
South	483	30.0

Illegitimate live births numbered 76, the same as in 1958, and equal to 4.72 per cent of the total live births.

PREMATURE BIRTHS

Notifications of premature births increased during 1959 compared with the previous year. A satisfactory feature however was the reduction in the number of premature stillbirths notified, whilst a further improvement was noted in the slightly higher percentage of premature live births which survived the first 28 days.

Details of all premature births for the two years are given below :—

PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS NOTIFIED.	1959	1958
(a) Born in Hospital.....	109	81
(i) Died within 24 hours of birth.....	6	10
(ii) Survived 28 days.....	99	65
(b) Born at home and nursed entirely at home.....	17	25
(i) Died within 24 hours of birth.....	1	—
(ii) Survived 28 days.....	16	25
(c) Born at home and transferred to hospital before 28th day.....	9	5
(i) Died within 24 hours of birth.....	—	—
(ii) Survived 28 days.....	9	3

PREMATURE STILLBIRTHS NOTIFIED.

(a) Born in hospital.....	10	22
(b) Born at home.....	3	4

STILLBIRTHS AND PERINATAL MORTALITY.

There was again a slight fall in the number of stillbirths occurring during the year, the figures being 37 in 1959 and 40 in 1958. The rates for the two years were 22.48 and 24.24 respectively, whilst the rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 20.7.

Deaths of infants under one week were also fewer than in the previous year and the total perinatal deaths numbered 43, which is lower than at any time since 1951.

The rate produced by this figure, per 1,000 live and stillbirths, is 32.20 and although the corresponding figure for England and Wales is not available at the time of going to print it is anticipated that the West Hartlepool rate will be below the national average as it was in 1951.

Tables showing stillbirths and perinatal mortality during recent years are set out below :—

Year	Total number of stillbirths	Deaths in the first week	Total peri-natal deaths
1951	26	17	43
1952	33	25	58
1953	28	28	56
1954	38	30	68
1955	36	35	71
1956	21	36	57
1957	44	39	83
1958	40	20	60
1959	37	16	43

Year	No. of stillbirths registered during the year per 1,000 live and stillbirths.		No. of stillbirths along with the No. of deaths of children under the age of one week per 1,000 live and stillbirths registered during the same year.	
	Stillbirth Rate		Peri-natal Mortality Rate	
	West Hartlepool	England & Wales	West Hartlepool	England & Wales
1951	17.96	23.0	29.71	38.1
1952	22.47	22.7	39.51	37.5
1953	19.81	22.5	39.63	37.0
1954	27.49	23.5	49.20	38.1
1955	24.08	23.2	47.49	37.6
1956	13.84	22.9	37.5	36.8
1957	26.83	22.5	50.61	36.2
1958	24.24	21.6	36.36	35.1
1959	22.48	20.7	32.20	*

*not available

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate for the County Borough improved once again during 1959 ; indeed the improvement was such that for the first time the rate was below that for England and Wales. This is all the more notable in view of the fact that the birth rate continued at almost the same level as in 1958.

The total number of children who died under the age of one year was 33 compared with 41 in the previous year, and the infant mortality rates for the two years were 20.51 in 1959 and 25.47 in 1958. The comparable rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 22.0 per 1,000 live births.

The figures relating to infant mortality for a ten-year period are given in the table below :—

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES, 1950-59.

YEAR	WEST HARTLEPOOL			ENGLAND & WALES RATE
	Births	Deaths of Infants under one year	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	
1950	1,360	59	43	29.6
1951	1,421	49	34	29.7
1952	1,435	57	40	27.6
1953	1,385	55	40	26.8
1954	1,344	62	46	25.4
1955	1,459	64	44	24.9
1956	1,496	61	41	23.7
1957	1,596	70	44	23.1
1958	1,610	41	25	22.6
1959	1,609	33	21	22.0

NEO-NATAL AND POST-NEONATAL MORTALITY.

Twenty-two children died during the first four weeks of life giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 13.67 compared with the England and Wales rate of 15.8. In 1958 the local rate was 16.15 whilst that for the country as a whole was 16.2.

The number of children who died between the ages of one month and twelve months was 11 compared with 15 in 1958 and 24 in 1957. The rate of 6.84 for 1959 was again the lowest on record, and thereby maintained the downward trend which started in 1958 when the rate was 9.32, per 1,000 live births.

Further details concerning infant mortality are given in the tables and diagrams which follow :—

Year	NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS			
	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths in the early neo-natal period	Deaths in the neo-natal period	Deaths in the post-neonatal period
1951	49	17	22	27
1952	57	25	34	23
1953	55	28	32	23
1954	62	30	39	23
1955	64	35	45	19
1956	61	36	44	17
1957	70	39	46	24
1958	41	20	26	15
1959	33	16	22	11

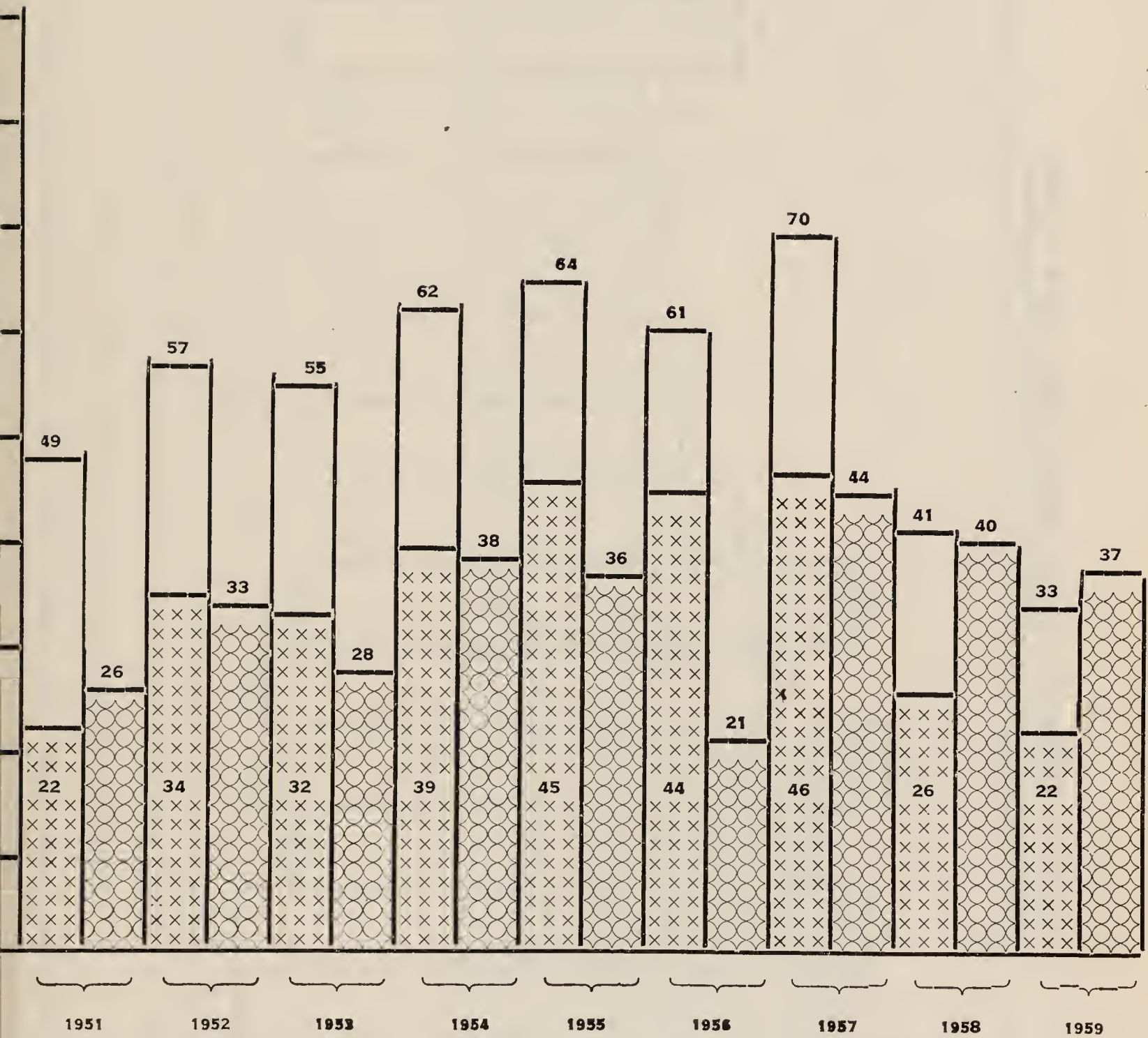
Year	MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS IN WEST HARTLEPOOL AND ENGLAND & WALES			
	Neo-natal Mortality		Post-neonatal Mortality	
	West Hartlepool	England & Wales	West Hartlepool	England & Wales
1951	15.45	18.8	19.00	10.9
1952	23.69	18.3	16.02	9.3
1953	23.10	17.7	16.60	9.1
1954	29.02	17.7	17.11	7.7
1955	31.52	17.3	12.34	7.6
1956	29.41	16.8	11.36	7.0
1957	28.82	16.5	15.04	6.5
1958	16.15	16.2	9.32	6.4
1959	13.67	15.8	6.84	6.2

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The principal causes to which the deaths of children under one year of age were attributed are shown below, the figures in parenthesis being the percentages for 1958 :—

	No.	<i>Percentage of Total Deaths</i>	
Prematurity.....	6	18.2	(34.1)
Pneumonia.....	7	21.2	(21.9)
Congenital Malformations	6	18.2	(14.6)
Bronchitis.....	—	—	(7.3)
Atelectasis	2	6.1	(7.3)
Gastro Enteritis	2	6.1	(2.4)

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE AND STILLBIRTHS 1951 - 1959



KEY



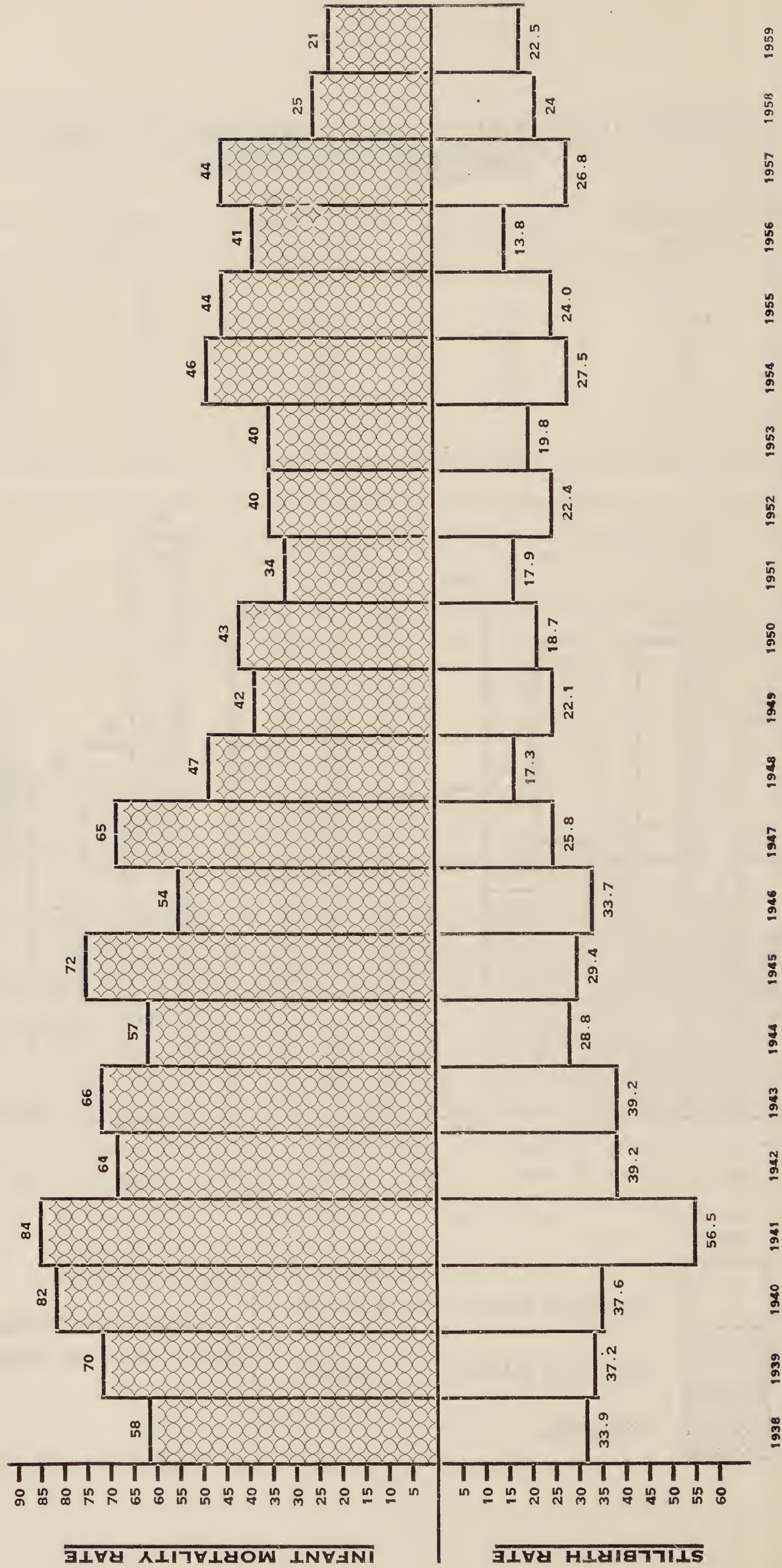
Deaths of infants 1 - 12 months

Deaths of infants 1 - 4 weeks

Stillbirths

Total deaths of infants under one year of age.

TOTAL INFANT LIFE WASTAGE 1938 - 1959



INFANT MORTALITY IN THE WARDS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	North	West	Park	South West	Cent'l	North East	Seaton	South	Total
Meningococcal Infections...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	1	7
Gastritis, Enteritis	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Prematurity	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	2	6
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Congenital Malformations ..	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	2	6
Asphyxia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Meningitis.....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hæmolytic Disease of the Newborn.....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Hæmorrhagic Disease of the Newborn.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Intracranial Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
Other Birth Injury.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS.....	3	—	7	—	5	5	4	9	33

DEATHS

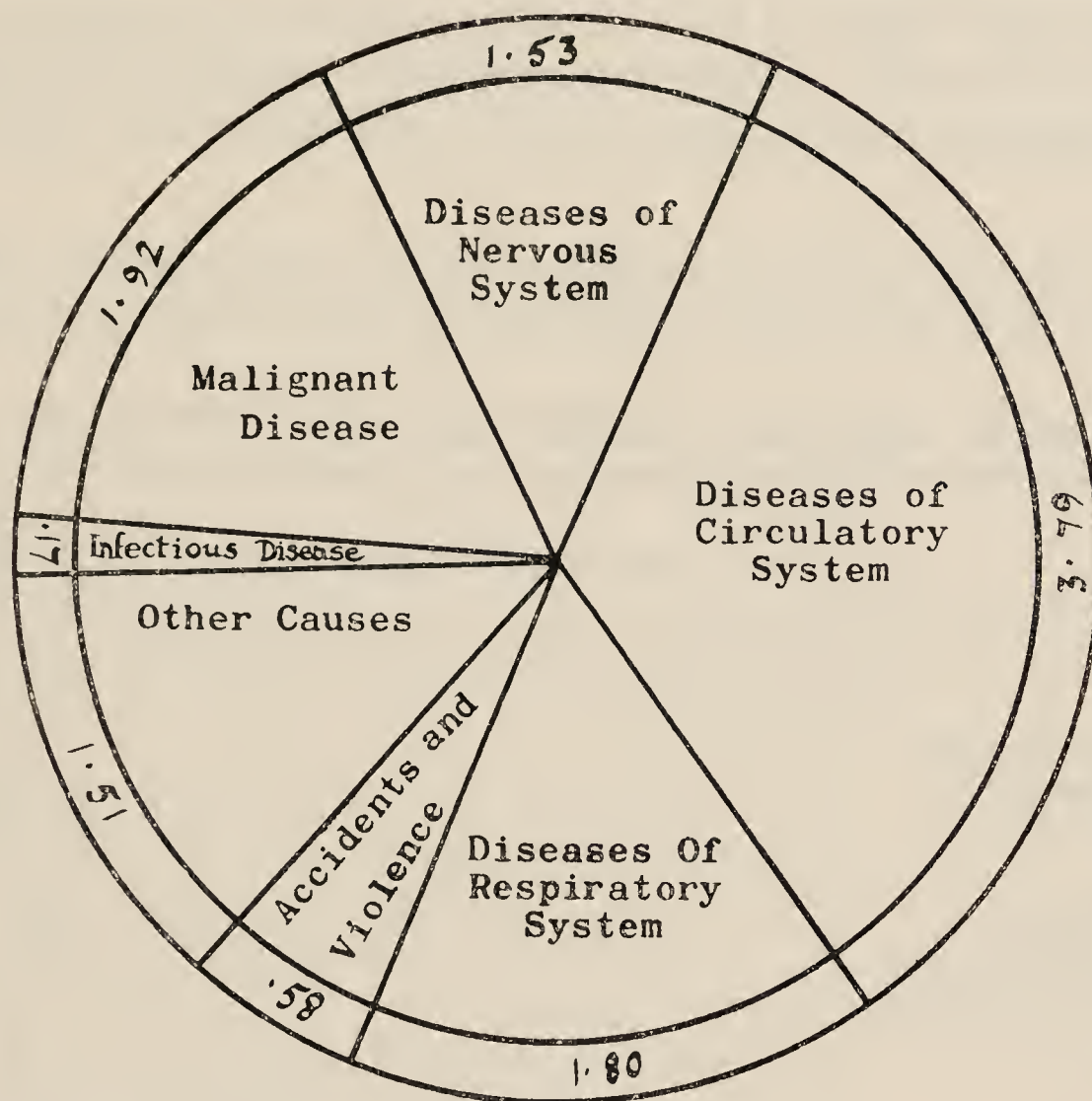
Deaths of residents of the County Borough totalled 853 in 1959 of which 444 were males and 409 were females. The crude death rate was 11.31 per one thousand estimated resident population compared with the similar rate for the previous year of 11.41.

When adjusted by the area comparability factor the rate is 13.70 which compares with the rate for 1958 of 13.92. The rate for England and Wales for 1959 was 11.6. In the table below the death rates are shown for West Hartlepool and England and Wales for the past ten years.

DEATH RATES, 1950-59.

YEAR	WEST HARTLEPOOL		ENGLAND AND WALES
	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per. 1000 Pop.	
1950	913	12.60	11.6
1951	920	12.72	12.5
1952	819	11.36	11.3
1953	794	10.98	11.4
1954	824	11.36	11.3
1955	854	11.72	11.7
1956	875	11.95	11.7
1957	824	11.14	11.5
1958	849	11.41	11.7
1959	853	11.31	11.6

The diagram below gives an indication of the principal causes of death during the year together with the death rates per one thousand estimated resident population.



TOTAL DEATH RATE 11.41 PER 1,000 POPULATION.

CANCER.

There were 141 deaths due to malignant neoplasms in 1959, a decrease of 8 compared with the previous year. The rate per one thousand estimated resident population was 1.87 as against the rate in 1958 of 2.00. Cancer deaths accounted for 16.53% of the total deaths during the year under review compared with 17.55% in 1958 and 17.11% in 1957. Further comparison of the deaths from this disease in recent years is given in the following table :

CANCER DEATHS 1950-59.

Year	No. of Cancer Deaths	Males	Females	Death Rate per 1000 population	Deaths from all causes	Percentage of total deaths
1950	135	70	65	1.86	913	14.79
1951	122	62	60	1.69	920	13.26
1952	154	92	62	2.08	819	18.80
1953	124	75	49	1.71	794	15.62
1954	130	69	61	1.79	824	15.77
1955	122	66	56	1.67	854	14.28
1956	144	87	57	1.97	875	16.45
1957	141	74	67	1.91	824	17.11
1958	149	83	66	2.00	849	17.55
1959	141	81	60	1.87	853	16.53

32 deaths were attributable to cancer of the lung and bronchus this number being 4 less than in 1958. The greatest number of deaths occurred in males between the ages of 55 and 65 years.

Deaths from cancer of the stomach numbered 25 compared with 16 in 1958 and 30 in 1957. Deaths from malignant neoplasms affecting other digestive organs and peritoneum were 32 compared with 40 in 1958 and 29 in 1957.

The table below gives an analysis of deaths from malignant neoplasms showing the parts of the body affected and the age at which death occurred.

CANCER DEATHS — PARTS OF BODY AFFECTED.

PARTS AFFECTED	Age Sex	Under 35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65-75		Over 75		Total —1959		Total —1958	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Stomach.....		—	—	—	—	5	2	1	1	3	2	5	6	14	11	11	5
Other Digestive Organs and Peritoneum		—	—	—	—	2	3	6	4	4	3	4	6	16	16	18	22
Genito-Urinary Organs.....		—	—	1	4	1	1	—	3	2	4	3	1	7	13	9	13
Breast.....		—	—	—	2	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	10	—	12
Other Glands.....		—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	1	1	—
Lung and Bronchus.....		—	—	2	—	4	—	12	—	9	—	2	3	29	3	32	4
Other Respiratory System..		—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	2	1
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	2
Bone		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Other Parts		—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	1	4	5	9	7
TOTALS.....		—	2	3	6	15	11	21	9	23	12	19	20	81	60	83	66

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

There were 5 deaths from influenza during the year, equivalent to a rate of .066 per one thousand population as against a rate of .013 in 1958 and 0.95 in 1957.

The total number of deaths from other respiratory diseases, excluding pulmonary tuberculosis, showed little variation from the previous year, 131 deaths being recorded compared with 132 in 1958.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one death attributable to maternal causes and the maternal mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths was 0.61 which was the same as in the previous two years.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total Deaths	AGE GROUPS									Deaths in Institutions
		Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75 up	
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	11	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	1	9
Tuberculosis—Other	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	5	11	13
„ „ —Lung & Bronchus	32	—	—	—	—	—	2	16	10	4	16
„ „ —Breast	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	3	5
„ „ —Uterus	10	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	3	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ..	64	—	—	—	—	1	3	24	17	19	30
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3
Diabetes	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	4	8
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	115	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	42	54	52
Coronary Disease, Angina	140	—	—	—	—	—	2	38	50	50	48
Hypertension with Heart Disease	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	11	17
Other Heart Disease	84	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	17	51	27
Other Circulatory Disease	37	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	6	24	13
Influenza	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2
Pneumonia	65	7	1	—	—	—	2	15	12	28	41
Bronchitis	59	—	1	—	—	—	—	21	13	24	28
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	5
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	1	9
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	5	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations	8	6	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	71	17	1	1	1	2	2	15	11	21	51
Motor Vehicle accidents	11	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	2	9
All other accidents	23	—	—	1	—	1	2	7	2	10	9
Suicide	10	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	3	—	—
Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL DEATHS	853	33	3	3	4	7	34	216	221	332	416

THE DEATHS AS THEY OCCURRED IN THE WARDS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total Deaths	WARDS							
		North	West	Park	S.-West	Central	N.-East	Seaton	South
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	11	—	—	1	2	3	3	2	—
Tuberculosis Other	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach ..	25	4	2	3	2	5	5	1	3
" " - Lung & ..	32	4	5	3	5	2	5	2	6
" " - Bronchus ..	10	3	—	—	1	2	2	2	—
" " - Breast	10	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	5
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	64	9	5	8	11	8	5	10	8
Leukæmia and Aleukæmia	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diabetes	10	—	—	2	—	3	2	2	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	115	10	14	18	14	10	21	12	16
Coronary Disease, Angina	140	12	12	23	19	21	13	15	25
Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	25	2	3	1	4	6	2	2	5
Other Heart Disease	84	5	16	11	7	10	11	11	13
Other Circulatory Disease	37	5	4	5	3	5	3	2	10
Influenza	5	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Pneumonia	65	6	5	7	8	10	13	9	7
Bronchitis	59	10	5	3	6	12	9	9	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	7	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	9	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	2
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhœa ..	5	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	8	1	—	2	—	1	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	71	7	8	11	8	7	11	4	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	11	3	2	—	2	—	1	1	2
All other accidents	23	1	5	4	1	6	4	1	1
Suicide	10	—	3	—	—	1	1	1	4
Homicide and Operations of War ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL DEATHS	853	84	98	113	98	115	118	91	136

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VENEREAL DISEASE (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)

Notifications of infectious disease (excluding tuberculosis) numbered 1,423 and of these 19 cases received hospital treatment. Measles notifications totalled 1,326 leaving 97 notifications of other forms of infectious disease compared with 63 in 1958. The tables below give further details of notifications during the year.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified	No. of such cases treated in hospital
Scarlet Fever	49	1
Whooping Cough	5	—
Measles	1326	—
Pneumonia	10	2
Meningococcal Infection	4	4
Poliomyelitis	1	1
Dysentery	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	10
Food Poisoning	15	1
Erysipelas	2	—

Disease	Hospital						Total
	Gr'ntully Mat.Hme	Brierton Hospital	General Hospital	Cameron Hospital	H'pools. Hospital	Other Hospitals	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Meningococcal infection	—	3	1	—	—	—	4
Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	10	—	—	10
Food Poisoning	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

SCARLET FEVER.

The incidence of scarlet fever during 1959 increased slightly compared with the previous year, 49 cases being notified as against 32 in 1958, and 10 in 1957. 32 of the notifications in 1959 referred to children below the

age of ten years whilst 15 cases notified were children between the ages of ten and fifteen years. Only one case received hospital treatment and no deaths were attributable to this disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

No notifications of diphtheria were received during the year and it is of interest to record that the last notifications of this disease were received in 1952.

POLIOMYELITIS.

One notification of poliomyelitis occurred in 1959, this being a school child aged six years. The child had not been vaccinated against the disease and whilst a diagnosis of paralytic poliomyelitis was subsequently given the child was only slightly affected in her right arm and made a satisfactory recovery.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Only five cases of whooping cough were reported during the year compared with seven in 1958 and one hundred and twenty in 1957. None of the cases received hospital treatment.

MEASLES.

The notifications of cases of measles during 1959 numbered 1,326 compared with 52 in 1958. This figure is the highest since 1941, the previous highest being 1,072 in 1957. 819 notifications referred to children between the ages of one and five years, 435 related to children between the ages of five and ten years and 54 were children below the age of one year. There were no deaths attributable to this disease.

FOOD POISONING—SALMONELLA.

The first indication that an outbreak of food poisoning had occurred in West Hartlepool was on the 16th January, 1959, when a case was notified in a 50 year-old man who had been off work since the 1st January. An investigation revealed that amongst other things he had eaten cakes from a Stockton bakery for tea on New Year's Day. Seven further notifications were received and on investigation, all the patients had consumed cakes from this particular bakery during the period 30th December to the 6th January. In some cases it was shown that other members of the family had been ill during the same period. A further batch of eight notifications was received between the 22nd and 24th January and on investigation it was indicated that cakes must have been infected between the 12th and 17th January. In only one case could no evidence be found of consumption of cakes from this particular bakery.

On receipt of the first notification an enquiry was made of the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, as to the extent of Salmonella infection occurring on Tees-side and it was reported that a multiplicity of types were being found. This suggested that some imported product such as egg

albumen might be the source of origin and it was further learned that this Stockton bakery was under suspicion. As has been said, a link was established between notified cases and consumption of cakes from this bakery and an investigation of the bakery was undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health at Stockton-on-Tees. Further action in West Hartlepool was confined to sampling cakes exposed for sale and checking up on food handlers who themselves were infected. A total of six were excluded from work until free from infection.

It was well into the month of February before the outbreak could be said to be over and it is certain that the actual number of cases was very considerably in excess of the numbers actually notified.

Throughout the period there was close co-operation between the Public Health Departments of Stockton and West Hartlepool and the Public Health Laboratory at Middlesbrough.

TYPHOID FEVER.

In August, 1959, notification was received from the Medical Officer of Health of Cheltenham that several members of a coach party who had been on a tour of Southern Spain had been admitted to hospital and a diagnosis of typhoid established. One West Hartlepool woman who had been a contact was investigated and was found to have had symptoms while on holiday. Urine and fæces samples were negative but a Widal reaction showed evidence of recent infection of salmonella typhi. The girl was employed in a local factory and was not engaged in the food trade.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

A summary is given below of the work of the Special Treatment Clinic at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool, during 1959 :—

Table 1. ATTENDANCES BY PATIENTS & CONTACTS DURING 1959

ATTENDANCES BY PATIENTS	At which Patients saw Physician	Syphilis..... Gonorrhœa Other Conditions.....	Totals	Males	Females
			448 172 218	276 139 190	172 33 28
		TOTALS ..	838	605	233
	At which Patients did not see Physician	Syphilis..... Gonorrhœa Other Conditions.....	Totals	Males	Females
			96 13 9	50 13 9	46 — —
		TOTALS ..	118	72	46
CONTACTS ATTENDING FOR EXAMINATION REFERRED BY PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM :—		Syphilis.....	6	2	4
		Gonorrhœa	7	—	7
		Non-Gonococcal Urethritis	1	—	1
		Other Conditions.....	—	—	—
		TOTALS ..	14	2	12

TABLE 2(a). PATIENTS DEALT WITH FOR THE FIRST TIME (By Disease).

Year	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Others		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. & F.
1955	9	15	12	3	41	22	102
1956	6	12	16	6	45	13	98
1957	7	9	20	5	53	11	105
1958	6	4	26	10	46	10	102
1959	5	2	19	3	41	11	81

TABLE 2(b). NEW CASES (Subdivided by Disease and Domicile).

Area	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
West Hartlepool	Syphilis					Gonorrhœa					Others				
	13	11	12	8	7	9	10	16	25	15	38	33	34	36	34
Merchant Navy ..	1	—	1	—	—	3	9	7	4	2	10	6	12	7	8
Others ..	10	7	3	2	—	3	3	2	7	5	15	19	18	13	10

TABLE 3. PATHOLOGICAL WORK

NUMBER OF SPECIMENS EXAMINED	Microscopical : " : Cultural Serum : " : Cerebro Spinal Fluid (No. of Diagnostic Lumbar Punctures)	By the Physician at the Centre	Sent to a Pathological Centre
		— 76 — — — —	— — 37 206 1 6

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES—AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Disease	At all ages	Age Group Distribution										Ward Distribution of Cases										
		Age un-known	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	North East	Central	North	West	Park	South West	South	Seaton
Scarlet Fever	49	—	—	—	—	2	5	25	15	2	—	—	—	—	7	2	7	6	12	4	9	2
Whooping Cough.....	5	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Measles	1326	—	54	163	246	213	197	435	15	2	1	—	—	94	149	106	122	120	98	512	125	—
Pneumonia	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	5	—	1	2	1	—	—	3	2
Meningococcal Infection.....	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	4	—
Food Poisoning	15	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	2	4	1	1	2	2	1	5	2	2	1
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	36	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	9	6	13	2	3	12	2	5	3	2	4	5
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Totals	1462	—	59	167	246	218	202	466	34	10	22	11	19	8	111	167	121	138	139	109	541	136

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES—SHOWING INCIDENCE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

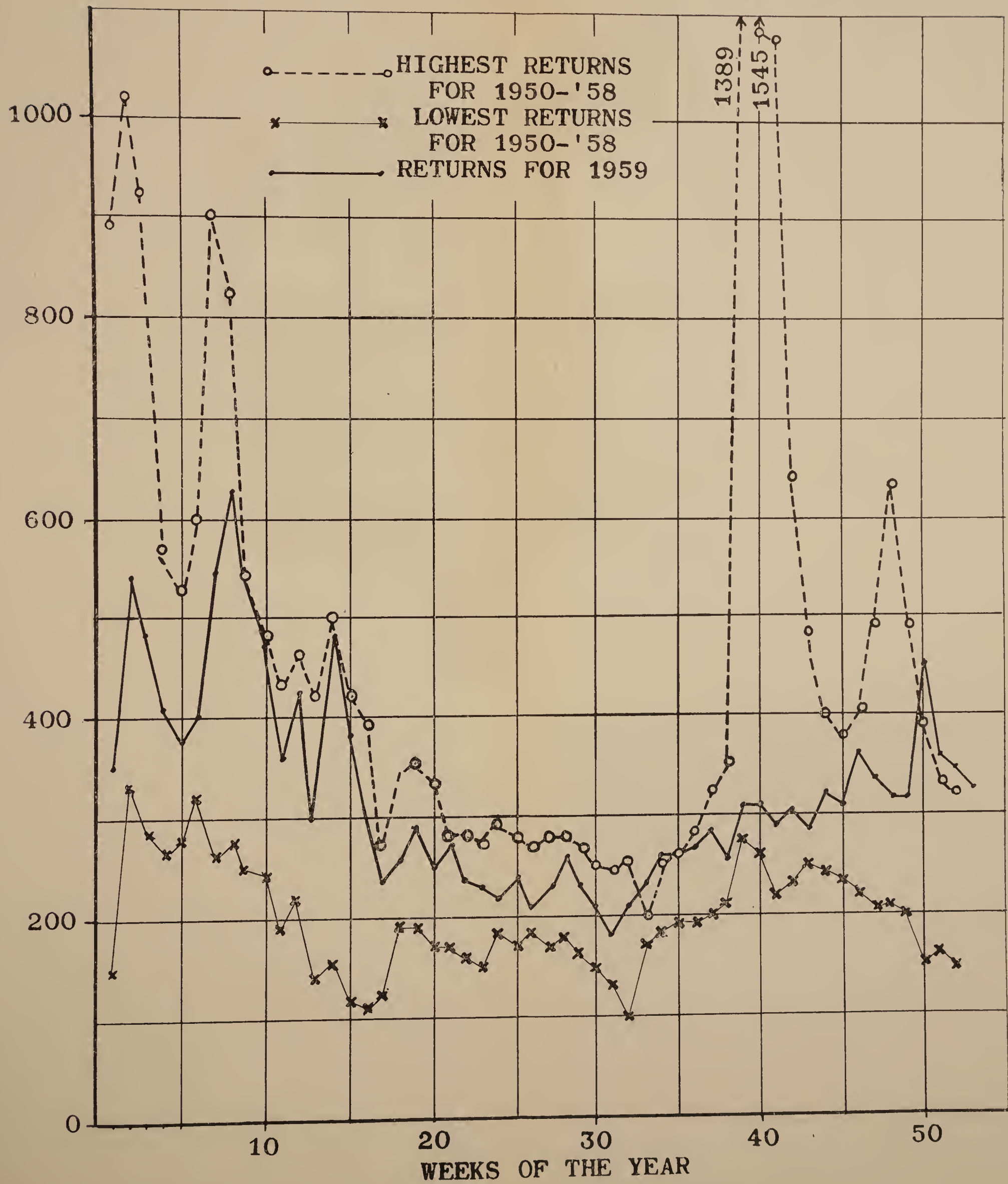
Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever.....	5	15	17	4	1	1	—	—	—	4	1	1	49
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5
Measles	6	105	402	557	191	49	8	2	1	2	1	2	1326
Pneumonia.....	1	3	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Meningococcal	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4
Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery.....	12	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	15
Food Poisoning...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	—	2	—	4	5	5	3	3	5	2	5	36
Tuberculosis	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
(Other Forms ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals.....	30	127	424	566	198	57	15	6	6	16	6	11	1462

NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE—1940-1959.

Disease	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	48	73	249	155	121	131	88	228	88	72	74	72	79	92	23	1	3	10	32	49
Whooping Cough.....	4	287	22	39	60	30	13	18	102	138	57	101	38	42	136	38	33	120	7	5
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ..	62	79	103	53	86	60	24	36	18	9	8	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	473	1,590	513	960	543	231	627	408	327	749	407	973	718	228	789	171	160	1,072	52	1326
Acute Pneumonia	97	117	119	139	83	65	117	128	88	88	104	131	29	27	24	17	20	20	8	10
Meningococcal Infection..	19	17	9	4	4	6	4	7	12	5	6	11	4	2	4	1	—	2	—	4
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	9	—	1	9	1	18	—	2	2	6	1	—	1
Paralytic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	1	—	—
Non-paralytic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60	17	14	24	28	19	—	—	4	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	13	14	17	6	15	9	2	2	1	2	1	5	—	3	1	1	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	15	10	19	17	7	5	3	5	9	5	2	4	10	3	5	12	4	14	11	10
Puerperal Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric & Typhoid Fevers	3	12	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	9	4	7	3	—	—	—	—	15
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	86	95	97	94	120	87	97	102	129	81	113	80	74	75	80	95	50	56	30	36
Other forms of Tuberculosis	28	38	38	24	25	24	28	24	22	11	11	16	6	4	15	5	4	5	3	3
Erysipelas.....	17	18	22	23	20	15	10	11	21	22	11	8	4	8	10	1	1	3	—	2
Chickenpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MORBIDITY STATISTICS

Weekly figures for new claims to Sickness Benefit (Min. of Nat. Insurance).
(West Hartlepool)



MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL CARE.

The emphasis during 1959 was again on the need for adequate ante-natal care for all expectant mothers.

There was close co-operation between the local health authority and hospital authorities with regard to defaulters from the ante-natal clinics, follow-up visits being made by health visitors when requested. Much more attention was paid to the home circumstances of patients booked for domiciliary confinements, and detailed reports were submitted to the Consultant Obstetrician on those cases where, for social and domestic reasons, hospital or maternity home confinements were considered desirable. This system also acted in reverse, resulting in some patients, whose home circumstances were suitable, having their confinements at home thereby relieving hospital beds for more essential cases.

The Midwives' Clinics which were started in 1958 continued to function satisfactorily during the year. Patients booking the services of a midwife were advised to attend the Clinic, and as a general rule maternity packs could only be obtained from either the Midwives' Clinics or the local authority Ante-natal Clinic. A total of 554 maternity packs were issued by the department to patients during the year, involving an expenditure of £275.

Details of the attendances at the Midwives' Clinics during 1959 are given below.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Attendees</i>	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Rossmere Way ..	191	146	646
Stranton House ..	331	272	712

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The increase which had been noted in recent years in the attendances at Infant Welfare Centres continued during 1959.

A considerable amount of time was spent at the Centres in giving poliomyelitis vaccinations to children under five years and to expectant mothers. Despite this the normal work proceeded satisfactorily, and, in fact, more examinations and consultations were undertaken by Medical Officers than in the previous year.

The attendances at the Rossmere Way Infant Welfare Centre, which is situated on the Council's Owton Manor Estate, increased again during the year under review. The present Centre is a converted council house and is somewhat inadequate for the amount of work which is required to be undertaken in order to provide a satisfactory service for residents on this estate. The Council has now approved plans for the erection of a Community Hall in the area which will incorporate accommodation for an infant welfare clinic.

The tables which follow show in more detail the work of the Centres :

ATTENDANCES

Centre	Total No. of Children attending the Centre				Total Attendances			No. of children who made first attendances	No. of visits made by these children	No. of children who attended in previous years	No. of visits made by these children	No. of new attenders under one year	No. of new attenders between 1—5
	Under 1	1—2	2—5	Total	Under 1	1—2	2—5	Total					
Dale Street ...	230	99	106	435	2,516	493	424	3,433	151	1,527	284	1,906	7
Seaton Carew .	76	27	62	165	850	123	296	1,269	61	587	104	682	7
Oxford Street .	264	110	240	614	2,770	396	749	3,915	185	1,723	429	2,192	6
Rossmere Way	377	142	272	791	3,377	429	750	4,556	342	2,618	449	1,938	35
St. Matthew's .	281	118	233	632	3,480	596	1,003	5,079	221	2,382	411	2,697	6
Stranton House	177	92	116	385	1,740	456	411	2,607	166	1,195	219	1,412	18
St. Luke's	200	105	162	467	2,615	512	806	3,933	176	1,687	291	2,246	7
Totals 1959	1,605	693	1,191	3,489	17,348	3,005	4,439	24,792	1,302	11,719	2,187	13,073	86
Totals 1958	1,422	697	1,076	3,195	16,155	3,426	3,987	23,568	1,200	11,024	1,995	12,544	77
Totals 1957	1,382	558	1,010	2,950	16,896	2,805	2,943	22,644	1,148	11,140	1,802	11,504	72
Totals 1956	—	—	—	2,897	—	—	—	20,965	1,056	9,754	1,841	11,211	83

METHODS OF FEEDING (FIRST ATTENDERS)

Centre	Breast	Artificial	Breast & Artificial	Artificial & Ordny. Diet	Ord. Diet Under 1 year	Ord. Diet over 1 year	Total
Dale Street	31	101	12	—	—	7	151
Seaton	21	32	—	—	1	7	61
Oxford Street . .	39	127	12	—	1	6	185
Rossmere Way . .	82	212	12	—	2	34	342
St. Matthew's . . .	60	133	21	—	1	6	221
Stranton House .	36	104	3	—	4	19	166
St. Luke's	39	112	16	—	2	7	176
TOTALS . .	308	821	76	—	11	86	1,302

EXAMINATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS BY MEDICAL OFFICERS AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Centre	Children			Vac- cinations	Injections			Consult- ations with Mothers
	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—5 years		Diptheria Immunis- ations	Poliomyelitis Vaccination		
						6 mths —5yrs.	Mothers	
Dale Street	504	48	56	82	159	152	19	34
Seaton Carew . . .	201	49	1	52	81	42	8	4
Oxford Street	583	137	162	57	250	198	28	90
Rossmere Way . .	826	144	190	86	450	378	33	25
St. Matthew's . . .	551	72	84	57	153	117	29	43
Stranton House .	537	87	115	40	168	172	25	59
St. Luke's	536	28	53	63	194	91	10	23
Totals	3,738	565	661	437	1,455	1,150	152	278

EXAMINATIONS BY MEDICAL OFFICERS AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES SHOWING CONDITIONS FOUND IN INFANTS

	Dale Street	Seaton Carew	Oxford Street	Rossmere Way	St. M'thew's	Stranton	St. Luke's	Total
Abscess	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Anæmia	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Balanitis	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	5
Bronchitis	5	—	5	7	—	9	6	32
Circumcision	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Conjunctivitis	15	—	12	6	4	9	—	46
Constipation	10	—	14	8	4	12	12	60
Coughs and colds	28	—	—	4	1	17	53	103
Diarrhœa	23	—	7	—	4	24	25	83
Enlarged glands	6	—	—	4	—	1	—	11
Enuresis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Eye defects	2	—	1	1	5	3	13	25
Feeding difficulties	70	45	50	30	28	38	65	326
Gastritis	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	4
Nævis	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Nasal Catarrh	1	—	—	—	3	6	12	22
Otic defects	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	4
Otitis Media	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	6
Otorrhœa	25	—	7	5	3	2	6	48
Phimosis	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9
Physical defects	18	7	8	1	—	3	10	47
Pyloric Stenosis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Rash	40	—	12	2	—	13	33	100
Seborrhœa	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Skin Diseases	21	14	21	11	1	23	4	95
Speech Difficulties	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Stomatitis	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	5
Strabismus	6	—	3	3	—	—	5	17
T. and A.	—	29	5	4	—	—	—	38
Teething difficulties . . .	23	—	20	24	—	—	13	80
Thrush	10	—	8	5	3	9	—	35
Umbilical defects	7	—	1	—	—	1	5	14
Umbilical hernia	—	—	2	—	4	6	—	12
Urticaria	1	—	2	—	1	1	3	8
Vomiting	22	—	6	—	—	4	20	52
Worms	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	6
Other Conditions	9	—	13	6	5	16	6	55
Totals	346	95	211	139	72	206	300	1,369

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE AND PROPRIETARY FOODS.

Welfare Foods are distributed at each Infant Welfare Centre and at the Health Department during normal office hours.

Issues of National Dried Milk again fell during 1959 compared with the previous year, the actual sales being some 3,400 tins less than 1958. This downward trend in sales of National Dried Milk started in 1957 following the decision of the Ministry of Health to increase the price to 2s. 4d. per tin and it would appear that mothers prefer to purchase a proprietary brand of milk (the cheapest of which is 3s. per tin) in order to use their tokens to obtain a supply of cheap liquid milk. It has also been noted during the year that mothers having institutional confinements are being advised on discharge to use brands of proprietary milk foods rather than that provided under the Welfare Foods Scheme.

Sales of Orange Juice increased by about 2,600 bottles during the year and there were also slight increases in the issues of Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin A and D tablets.

In the tables below the comparative figures for the two years are shown :—

	1959		1958	
	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Value £</i>	<i>Issues</i>	<i>Value £</i>
National Dried Milk (tins)	17,950	2,125	21,383	2,280
" " "	2,496	Free	1,902	Free
Orange Juice (bottles)	39,681	827	37,082	773
" "	138	Free	252	Free
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	4,906	Free	4,725	Free
Vitamin A and D Tablets (packets)	2,860	Free	2,539	Free

Proprietary brands of dried milk and other foods continued to be sold at Infant Welfare Centres and the value of total sales remained at the same level as in the previous year. There were, however, variations in the sales of different products, the most notable being Adexolin, Rose Hip Syrup and Carnation Milk.

	TOTALS	
	1959	1958
Adexolin (bottles).....	1,361	893
Cow & Gate (packets).....	8,714	9,197
Ostermilk (tins).....	9,348	8,318
Colact (packets)	1,021	1,089

Virol (cartons).....	1,316	1,471
Malt and Oil (cartons).....	329	362
Halibut Oil (bottles)	65	51
Farex (packets).....	965	927
Baby Rice (packets).....	789	671
Scott's Twin Pack (packets).....	581	553
Ovaltine (tins).....	5,881	5,052
Robrex (packets)	276	355
Rose Hip Syrup (bottles)	2,426	1,617
Maltoline (tins).....	146	147
Robsoup (packets)	692	699
Groats (packets).....	443	369
Horlick's (tins)	2,511	2,008
Trufood Milk (packets)	411	873
Trufood Cereal (packets).....	853	856
Carnation Milk (tins).....	1,065	376

	1959	1958	1957
Value of Sales of Proprietary Foods : £4,896/11/6	£4,828	£4,135	

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The level of attendances at the authority's Ante-natal Clinic was maintained during 1959 and in submitting details of the work of the Clinic for the year the Consultant Obstetrician states—"The work of this Centre in its consultative and educative capacities continues. The incidence of toxæmia and anæmia in pregnancy is again marked and provides scope for much preventive work, but success will be achieved only with the greater co-operation of the mothers concerned. The increasing awareness of all health workers of the minimum social conditions necessary for safe and efficient domiciliary midwifery has brought its own problems. A proportion of mothers who are unsuitably placed for home confinement require only maternity home accommodation but this has been increasingly difficult to obtain and the patients have usually been referred to hospital."

The Clinic is held at Stranton House each Friday afternoon when the Consultant Obstetrician is in attendance assisted by one or more Municipal Midwife.

I am indebted to the Consultant Obstetrician for the following details concerning the work of the Clinic during the year :

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Total attendances.....	307	329
No. of patients who attended.....	101	114
Patients referred by practitioners for consultation...	23	24
Cases referred from other Health Authority Clinics..	—	4

Abnormalities discovered—

Anæmia in Pregnancy	14	15
Toxæmia in Pregnancy	6	5
Previous Abnormal Obstetric History.....	4	11
Malpresentation.....	5	4
Suspected Postmaturity.....	1	2
Pelvic Tumour and pregnancy.....	1	1
Pelvic Tumour.....	1	—
Ovarian Dyscrasia (Not Pregnant).....	2	2
Grand Parity.....	6	6
Vaginitis	2	3
Intra-uterine death.....	—	2
Contracted Pelvis	—	1
Acroparesthesia of Pregnancy	1	—
Premature Rupture of Membranes	1	—
Thrombophlebitis in Pregnancy.....	1	—
Cephalopelvic Disproportion.....	1	—
Hydramnois.....	2	—
Anencephaly and Hydramnios	—	2
Rhesus Negative	8	12
Cases referred for hospital confinement	17	15
Post-natal—No. of Patients.....	7	9
New Cases	5	6
Attendances.....	11	13

DENTAL TREATMENT—EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

The tables below give an indication of the use being made of the service provided by the Council for dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five.

A. NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE.

	Year	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant & Nursing mothers	1959	17	17	17	13
	1958	30	30	26	26
Children under Five	1959	26	26	26	26
	1958	36	36	36	—

B. FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED.

	Year	Scaling and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anæsthetics	Dentures Provided		Radio-graphs
								Full Upper/Lower	Partial Upper/Lower	
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	1959	5	7	—	—	138	1	10	4	—
	1958	6	16	—	—	133	2	7	4	—
Children under Five	1959	—	14	19	—	8	—	—	—	—
	1958	3	7	12	—	15	—	—	—	—

VICTORIA ROAD DAY NURSERY.

Attendances during the year were almost the same as in the previous year, the main difference being that a greater proportion of the children on the register were in the 2-5 age range.

No. of approved places—Under 2	30
2 — 5	50
No. of children on the register at 31st December, 1959—Under 2	19
2 — 5	60
Average daily attendance during the year—Under 2	16
2 — 5	35

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

During 1959 the Council agreed to contribute towards the maintenance charges of nine unmarried expectant mothers in Mother and Baby Homes.

The Council also continued to contribute to the funds of the Hartlepool Deanery Moral Welfare Society.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACTS, 1948.

One person was registered under the provisions of the above-mentioned Act during 1959 subject to the number of children to be received into her home not exceeding three at any one time.

NURSING HOMES.

There are no Registered nursing homes in West Hartlepool.

MIDWIFERY.

PART II MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHEME.

Six pupil midwives completed district training with the domiciliary midwives during 1959. Two commenced in the previous year and obtained their certificates in March, 1959 and the remainder undertook the whole of their training and were successful in the examinations during the year under review. At the end of the year one pupil was receiving training.

STAFF.

Eight domiciliary midwives were employed at the beginning of the year, one of whom was engaged solely on the nursing of premature infants.

The service was under considerable pressure, however, due to the steady increase in the number of cases in recent years, the continuing high number of cases requiring nursing upon discharge from hospital before the fourteenth day and sickness of staff. Authority was therefore given for the appointment of an additional midwife who took up her duties on the 1st October and who was employed on the Council's Owton Manor Estate where the situation was particularly difficult due to the movement of population from the central area of the town. Additional assistance was also given by a temporary relief midwife who was employed for four months on nursing duties only.

The area of the authority is divided into four districts for administrative purposes although in practice there is complete interchangeability and midwives attend cases in any district if the need arises. Each midwife books her own cases and in order to obtain a fair division of work it is necessary for the bookings to be examined at frequent intervals and re-allocated when required. It has been found that night calls do not place an undue strain on the midwifery staff, and the system whereby midwives relieve for one another within their own district seems to operate satisfactorily. There are no special arrangements for relief duty or night rota schemes.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

CASE LOAD 1955/59.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. of deliveries	468	510	519	468	530
Average Case Load	67	73	74	67	74
No. of cases attended on discharge from hospital before 14th day	33	78	146	264	108

No. of deliveries attended by midwives during the year—

(a) Doctor not booked	
(i) Present at time of delivery	—
(ii) Not present at time of delivery	9
(b) Doctor booked	
(i) Present at time of delivery	32
(ii) Not present at time of delivery	489
	<hr/>
Total	530
	<hr/>

No. of cases in which gas and air were administered—

(a) Doctor present at time of delivery	22
(b) Doctor not present at time of delivery	374

No. of cases in which “Trilene” was administered—

(a) Doctor present at time of delivery	1
(b) Doctor not present at time of delivery	—

No. of cases in which pethidine was administered—

(a) Doctor present at time of delivery	22
(b) Doctor not present at time of delivery	384

No. of cases delivered in institutions but attended by Domiciliary Midwives on discharge and before the 14th day..... 108

No. of domiciliary cases in which the infant was wholly breast fed at the 14th day..... 402

Ante-natal care undertaken by—

(i) General Medical Practitioner only	7
(ii) General Medical Practitioner and Local Authority Clinic	—
(iii) General Medical Practitioner, L.A. Clinic and Municipal Midwife	79
(iv) General Medical Practitioner and Municipal Midwife	435
(v) Local Authority Clinic and Municipal Midwife	1
(vi) Hospital Staff	2
(vii) Local Authority Clinic only	1
(viii) Municipal Midwife only	3
(ix) No ante-natal care	2

Visits and Clinic sessions undertaken by Midwives—

Visits in connection with :

(i) Ante-natal care	3,542
(ii) Nursings	9,209
(iii) Hospital discharges	620
(iv) Premature infants	2,824
(v) False calls	209
(vi) Booking of patients	13
(vii) Transfer of patients to Hospital	5
(viii) Oil bath enemas	82
(ix) Miscellaneous	181
	<hr/>
TOTAL VISITS ..	16,685
	<hr/>
INEFFECTIVE VISITS	335

Clinic sessions :

(i) Ante-natal clinics	111
(ii) Midwives' clinics	228

CONDITIONS FOR WHICH DOCTORS WERE SUMMONED
IN AN EMERGENCY BY MIDWIVES.

PREGNANCY—		PUERPERIUM—	
Ante partum hæmorrhage	1	Illness of Mother	2
No Fœtal Heart heard	4		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	5		2
	<hr/>		<hr/>
LABOUR—		INFANTS—	
Ruptured perineum	12	Prematurity	1
No advancement	1		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	13		1
	<hr/>		<hr/>
(i) Cases in which Doctor was booked	9		
(ii) Cases in which Doctor was not booked	12		
			<hr/>
			21
			<hr/>

INSTITUTIONAL CONFINEMENTS.

The following are details of West Hartlepool maternity cases treated in the Cameron Hospital and Grantully Maternity Home.

	<i>Cameron Hospital</i>	<i>Grantully Maternity Home</i>
No. of maternity beds in the Institution.....	40	21
No. of West Hartlepool maternity cases admitted during the year	674	417
Average duration of stay (days).....	11.4	11
No. of cases delivered by (a) Midwives.....	480	324
(b) Doctors.....	194	78
No. of cases in which medical aid was sought by midwives in emergency.....	254	174
No. of cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia.....	11	3
No. of cases notified as Pemphigus Neonatorum	—	—
No. of infants born to West Hartlepool mothers not entirely breast-fed whilst in the institution.....	91	76
No. of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	—
No. of maternal deaths	—	—
No. of stillbirths :		
Causes—Multiple Congenital Abnormalities.....	2	
Hydrocephaly	1	
Antepartum Hæmorrhage	5	
Pulmonary Atelectasis	2	
Prematurity.....	6	
Macerated		3
Toxæmia.....	4	
Unexplained.....		1
	—	—
	20	4
No. of infant deaths within 10 days of birth :	==	==
Causes—Meningocele	1	
Multiple Congenital Abnormalities.....	2	
Microcephaly	1	
Hæmorrhage into Adrenal Gland.....	1	
Atelectasis.....		1
Prematurity (2 Maternal Toxæmia).....	7	
Difficult Forceps Delivery.....		1
	—	—
	12	2
	==	==

HEALTH VISITING.

STUDENT HEALTH VISITORS' TRAINING SCHEME.

One student who was in training at the beginning of the year obtained her certificate in September. A further two students, one of whom was formerly a School Nurse, applied for training and commenced the course, which is organised by the County of Durham Board for the Training of Health Visitors, in September.

COMBINATION OF HEALTH VISITING AND SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE.

During the year the Health and Education Committees of the County Borough decided to implement the following recommendations regarding the Health Visiting/School Nursing services :—

- (i) That the services of health visiting and school nursing should be combined for administrative purposes in one service ;
- (ii) That the school medical inspections and follow-up visiting should be done largely by District Health Visitors who, in effect, become Health Visitors/School Nurses ;
- (iii) That those School Nurses who possess the necessary qualifications should be encouraged to take the Health Visitors' Certificate ;
- (iv) That a small number, eventually the equivalent of say $2\frac{1}{2}$ full-time Nurses, will be required to carry out non-specialised work, i.e. attendance at clinics.

The Health Visitors thereby became School Nurses for the schools situated in their area and attended medical inspections and carried out the resulting follow-up visits. They are required to visit the schools regularly to discuss health and welfare problems of the schoolchildren with Head-teachers, and if required may undertake such health education work as may be requested.

STAFF.

The staff at the end of the year comprised a Superintendent Health Visitor, eight Health Visitors and two Student Health Visitors in training. There were no changes in staff during the year and the strength was increased by one full-time nurse from September as a result of the student obtaining her certificate.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

The table overleaf gives details of the number of visits made by Health Visitors during 1959 and in addition gives the figures for the previous two years for comparison purposes.

It is notable that the overall level of visiting has been maintained despite the introduction during the year of a combined service which undoubtedly placed an initial strain on the staff. Visits to cases of measles increased considerably as a result of the epidemic during the year, and a more than usual number of special enquiries into housing circumstances were made.

The work in relation to the care of the aged continued as in the previous year and the visits undertaken by the Health Visitors are in addition to those by the two part-time Geriatric Visitors. (Further details of this work can be found on pages 79 to 81).

HEALTH VISITING 1957/59

VISITS					Expectant Mothers	INFECTIOUS DISEASE				Mental Defectives	SPECIAL ENQUIRIES								Total Visits	Total visits to		Number of attendances at Infant Welfare Centres	Ineff. Visits	
Children						Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles	Whooping Cough		Housing	Infant Deaths	Still-births	Aged Persons	Hospital After Care	Adoptions	Ante-Natal Care	Problem Families		Others	Families or house-holds			Children under 5
0—1			1—2	2—5																				
	FIRST	RE-VISITS																						
1959	1,560	4,198	3,827	7,979	849	6	4	725	2	20	177	48	45	1045	105	5	—	49	131	20,775	5,364	7,633	603	4,225
1958	1,745	4,377	4,070	8,016	740	6	8	18	2	230	124	76	36	1161	84	2	12	55	65	20,827	5,847	7,971	621	5,257
1957	1,583	3,152	3,266	7,182	404	19	10	611	63	112	138	97	38	76	62	11	5	7	75	16,911	4,856	7,239	657	5,865

HOME NURSING.

STAFF.

Six State Registered Nurses are employed by the Council to undertake duties as Home Nurses under Section 25 of the National Health Service Act.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

The introduction of a punched card system of records has enabled a much more comprehensive picture of the extent and nature of the work of the Home Nurses to be presented in this report.

The service continued to be used extensively and although the number of cases fell to 804 compared with 874 in 1958, the visits to these cases rose from 22,987 in 1958 to 23,499 in 1959. The average visits made by each nurse increased to 3,916, whilst the average case load throughout the year was 134, slightly less than the previous year.

Some indication of the increased demand on the service in recent years is shown in the table below :—

	TOTALS		PER NURSE	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
1950	436	9,389	109	2,347
1951	465	10,436	116	2,609
1952	526	11,203	105	2,240
1953	608	8,814	122	1,763
1954	528	12,569	106	2,513
1955	609	12,575	101	2,096
1956	708	16,566	117	2,761
1957	657	15,217	109	2,536
1958	874	22,987	145	3,831
1959	804	23,499	134	3,916

The following tables give further details of the work during the year under review :

CASES AND VISITS DURING 1959 ANALYSED ACCORDING TO AGE AND DISEASE

DISEASE OR CONDITION	Age 0 - 5		Age 5 - 15		Age 15 - 45		Age 45 - 65		Age 65 and over		Totals	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
Tuberculosis.....	1	38	—	—	16	1,250	16	835	7	374	40	2,497
Other Infectious Disease	1	7	1	11	1	102	2	17	2	39	7	176
Parasitic Disease.....	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	42	6	49
Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm.....	—	—	—	—	5	334	16	524	28	669	49	1,527
Asthma.....	—	—	—	—	1	17	1	42	4	120	6	179
Diabetes mellitus	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	128	15	1,949	19	2,077
Anæmias.....	2	12	—	—	40	460	15	414	40	1,011	97	1,897
Vascular Lesions of C.N.S.....	—	—	—	—	1	34	11	593	48	1,746	60	2,373
Other mental and nervous disease.....	—	—	—	—	4	1,012	6	569	1	123	11	1,704
Diseases of the Eye.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	83	1	83
Diseases of the Ear.....	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Heart and Artery Disease	—	—	—	—	4	263	17	485	47	1,679	68	2,427
Disease of the Veins.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	301	13	746	18	1,047
Upper Respiratory Disease.....	—	—	1	6	1	10	1	24	—	—	3	40
Other respiratory Disease	—	—	—	—	5	53	10	86	23	639	38	778
Constipation.....	1	4	3	6	8	11	8	16	29	117	49	154
Other Diseases of Digestive System.....	—	—	1	16	6	165	19	425	5	127	31	733
Diseases of Urinary System.....	—	—	—	—	3	35	6	149	10	287	19	471
Diseases of breast.....	—	—	—	—	5	78	3	37	7	300	15	415
Complications of Pregnancy.....	—	—	—	—	6	61	—	—	—	—	6	61
Diseases of Skin	1	9	—	—	7	111	2	269	11	561	21	950
Diseases of bones	—	7	—	—	—	—	8	770	17	596	25	1,366
Injuries.....	1	—	—	—	5	169	2	25	17	422	25	623
Senility.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	1,385	48	1,385
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	—	—	—	5	80	3	92	6	113	14	285
Disease not specified or not known	1	20	1	1	28	73	61	62	36	41	127	197
(including diagnostic X-rays).....												
	10	104	8	45	151	4,318	216	5,863	419	18,169	804	23,499

FURTHER ANALYSIS OF CASES ATTENDED BY HOME NURSES DURING 1959

DISEASE OR CONDITION	Male	Female	Medical	Surgical	Referred by				Living Alone	Home Help Provided	Incontinent	Appliance Provided	Nursing Provided		Treatments										Cases on Books at end of Year
					General Practitioner	Hospital	Medical Officer of Health	Other Sources					Under 1 week	Over 1 year	Injectons	Blanket Baths	Enema	Dressings	Change of Pessaries	Washouts, Douches, Catheterisation etc.	General Nursing Care	Attendance at minor operations	Preparation for diagnostic investigations	Other	
Tuberculosis	23	17	40	—	38	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	40	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other Infectious Disease.....	2	5	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Parasitic Disease.....	5	1	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm..	20	29	43	6	47	2	—	—	2	2	14	8	12	2	3	—	3	14	—	2	36	—	—	—	6
Asthma	1	5	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Diabetes mellitus	6	13	19	—	17	2	—	—	5	2	—	—	1	3	14	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	8
Anæmias	13	84	97	—	95	1	—	1	7	4	1	—	3	13	95	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	23
Vascular Lesions of C.N.S.....	25	35	60	—	57	3	—	—	4	9	32	17	10	8	2	6	1	2	—	—	52	—	—	—	10
Other mental and nervous disease....	5	6	11	—	10	1	—	—	1	3	2	3	—	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	5
Diseases of the Eye.....	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of the Ear.....	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart and Artery Disease.....	27	41	68	—	68	—	—	—	4	5	8	4	10	14	28	8	2	2	—	—	35	—	—	—	18
Disease of the Veins.....	—	18	18	—	18	—	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	3	3	1	—	15	—	—	2	—	—	—	7
Upper Respiratory Disease.....	2	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other respiratory Disease.....	14	24	38	—	38	—	—	—	2	2	3	3	12	—	22	—	—	1	—	—	17	—	—	—	4
Constipation.....	23	26	49	—	49	—	—	—	2	1	2	1	41	1	—	—	49	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Digestive System...	16	15	13	18	30	1	—	—	4	1	1	—	3	—	3	—	4	21	—	—	5	—	—	—	2
Diseases of Urinary System	7	12	13	6	19	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	6	1	4	—	—	6	—	7	4	—	—	—	2
Diseases of breast.....	—	15	10	5	14	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	7	—	—	2	—	—	—	4
Complications of Pregnancy.....	—	6	5	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin.....	12	9	21	—	19	2	—	—	2	3	1	2	3	2	5	—	—	14	—	—	5	—	—	—	6
Diseases of Bones.....	3	22	25	—	25	—	—	—	3	3	—	2	3	6	2	8	—	3	—	1	12	—	—	—	11
Injuries	12	13	23	2	25	—	—	—	3	3	2	1	2	—	7	2	—	12	—	—	7	—	—	1	3
Senility	18	30	48	—	47	—	—	1	5	6	16	7	10	7	2	11	2	—	—	—	36	—	—	—	14
Other defined and ill-defined diseases..	8	6	14	—	13	—	—	1	1	2	2	—	3	1	8	1	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	1
Disease not specified or not known (including diagnostic X-rays)	67	60	127	—	126	1	—	—	6	1	—	—	118	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	—	—	123	—	1
	310	494	765	39	785	16	—	3	58	59	87	50	245	75	250	42	66	119	—	16	239	—	123	1	139

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION.

The figures relating to vaccination against smallpox during the year were very similar to those for the previous year. The need still exists for mothers of children under one year of age to be encouraged to have their children vaccinated at an early age.

341 of the vaccinations were given by general medical practitioners and 294 by medical officers of the authority.

Vaccination	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
1955	333	12	17	16	27	405
1956	378	16	11	22	26	453
1957	485	16	20	12	28	561
1958	517	19	22	7	35	600
1959	504	19	18	8	18	567
Re-Vaccination	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
1955	—	1	3	5	55	64
1956	—	1	4	9	58	72
1957	—	—	2	5	46	53
1958	—	—	3	8	63	74
1959	1	1	5	7	54	68

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

It will be noted from the tables which follow that the position regarding diphtheria immunisation is rather unsatisfactory. There has been a gradual fall since 1955 in the immunity index of children under the age of 15 years and this was particularly noticeable during 1959 so far as children of school age were concerned. As a result of the efforts of the staff at the infant welfare centres the number of children under one receiving primary courses of immunisation has been fairly well maintained during the year under review. It is hoped that when the demand for poliomyelitis vaccinations has decreased, more time will be available for a campaign for diphtheria immunisation to be undertaken in the schools.

PRIMARY					REINFORCING			
YEAR	AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION							
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	Total	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	Total
1955	394	235	471	1,100	—	69	884	953
1956	326	189	183	698	—	66	330	396
1957	533	223	364	1,120	—	44	848	892
1958	528	205	136	869	—	57	501	558
1959	563	200	29	792	—	39	61	100

IMMUNITY INDEX.				
<i>Year</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1—4</i>	<i>5—14</i>	<i>Total</i>
1955	8.38	34.57	53.02	44.83
1956	4.3	36.37	50.18	43.02
1957	11.3	38.5	50.01	43.91
1958	10.13	42.06	42.61	40.00
1959	11.54	44.78	35.62	37.10

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The public demand for vaccination against poliomyelitis in the early part of the year made it impossible to cope with the vaccinations other than by mass vaccination in schools and factories. Arrangements were therefore made for teams consisting of a Medical Officer, two nurses and a clerk to visit the senior departments of schools and various factories and large departmental stores in the area. The co-operation of the firms concerned was readily forthcoming and wide publicity was given to the campaign by means of press notices, posters and leaflets. Almost all the smaller business premises in the central area of the town were notified of public sessions being held in nearby stores with a request for staff to be released to attend for vaccination.

In addition, regular sessions were held at the Health Department on Saturday mornings and at Stranton House Clinic on Wednesday evenings. Vaccinations at the Infant Welfare Centres were also increased with a view to improving the position with regard to the under-fives.

Whilst these measures were being taken to cope with the demand for primary vaccination, the children awaiting their third injection were being systematically dealt with by frequent sessions at the School Clinic.

The additional work which had been placed on the staff by the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme up to the beginning of 1959 was fractional compared with the volume of work during the following twelve months, almost every member of the clerical staff being involved at some time during the year.

The detailed results are shown in the tables on the following pages, but to summarise 9,581 persons received two injections by local authority staff and 1,036 persons by family doctors. A further 5,304 third injections were given of which 3,888 were carried out by local authority staff and 1,416 by family doctors.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

SECOND INJECTIONS

Vaccinated by	YEAR OF BIRTH																				Totals
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	E.M.	15-25	Others	
Local Authority Staff.....	515	375	358	400	311	193	99	174	91	109	202	223	219	235	288	401	50	206	5132	—	9,581
General Practitioners	10	5	9	12	21	14	14	17	19	17	30	29	49	36	65	89	23	106	461	10	1,036
Total 1959	525	380	367	412	332	207	113	191	110	126	232	252	268	271	353	490	73	312	5593	10	10,617
Total 1958	339	573	538	598	386	339	313	310	555	525	282	245	385	316	229	6	—	—	—	—	5,939
Total 1957	—	—	—	—	530	537	428	397	154	115	120	61	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,342
Total 1956	—	—	—	—	56	71	48	45	39	18	19	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	307

THIRD INJECTIONS

Vaccinated by	YEAR OF BIRTH																				Totals
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	E.M.	15-25	Others	
Local Authority Staff.....	92	158	211	223	565	482	468	389	234	287	209	159	113	184	99	5	—	5	3	2	3,888
General Practitioners	47	67	91	96	112	68	77	77	92	90	88	82	117	113	102	16	1	25	48	7	1,416
Total 1959	139	225	302	319	677	550	545	466	326	377	297	241	230	297	201	21	1	30	51	9	5,304
Total 1958	115	175	117	224	136	155	121	115	179	164	48	26	21	15	25	—	—	—	—	—	1,636

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

STAFF.

The authority employs the following staff in connection with the provision of ambulance services :—

Ambulance Officer	—	1
Senior Male Driver	—	1
Male Driver/Attendants	—	13
Female Driver/Attendants	—	5

VEHICLES.

The vehicles in use during the year are detailed below :

<i>Reg. No.</i>	<i>Date of First Reg.</i>	<i>Make</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Description</i>
EF 9346	14.3.50	Daimler	27 h.p.	2-berth Ambulance
EF 9996	4.8.51	Bedford	27 h.p.	2-berth Ambulance
AEF 284	24.4.52	Austin Sheerline	27 h.p.	2-berth Ambulance
BEF 310	12.2.54	Morris	1,476 cc.	Dual Purpose Vehicle
CEF 63	10.2.55	Morris	1,476 cc.	Dual Purpose Vehicle
EEF 62	1.3.57	Morris Diesel	3.4 litre	2-berth Ambulance

VHF RADIO TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT.

In August 1959, a Pye VHF Radio Telephone System was installed at a total initial cost of £1,164. The equipment comprised :—

- 1 × Fixed Station type PTC 723 VN for 25 kc/s working.
- 1 × Dipole aerial, feeders and connectors.
- 6 × 5-7 watt "Ranger" Mobile 25 kc/s equipment type PTC. 2002 VN.
- 1 × Aerial Mast.

It is too early yet to make any definite statement as to economies which have resulted from the installation of radio control but there is no doubt that benefits will result both in the saving in mileage and equally important, the reduction in the waiting time of patients.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

The total number of cases transported increased during the year by just over 1,000 patients whilst the total mileage was 600 miles less than in the previous year. The average mileage per case also showed a reduction from 3.9 in 1958 to 3.7 in 1959.

The cost of the service compares very favourably with the average cost for all local authorities. The latest figures show that the cost per patient conveyed is 14s. 7d. for West Hartlepool compared with the national

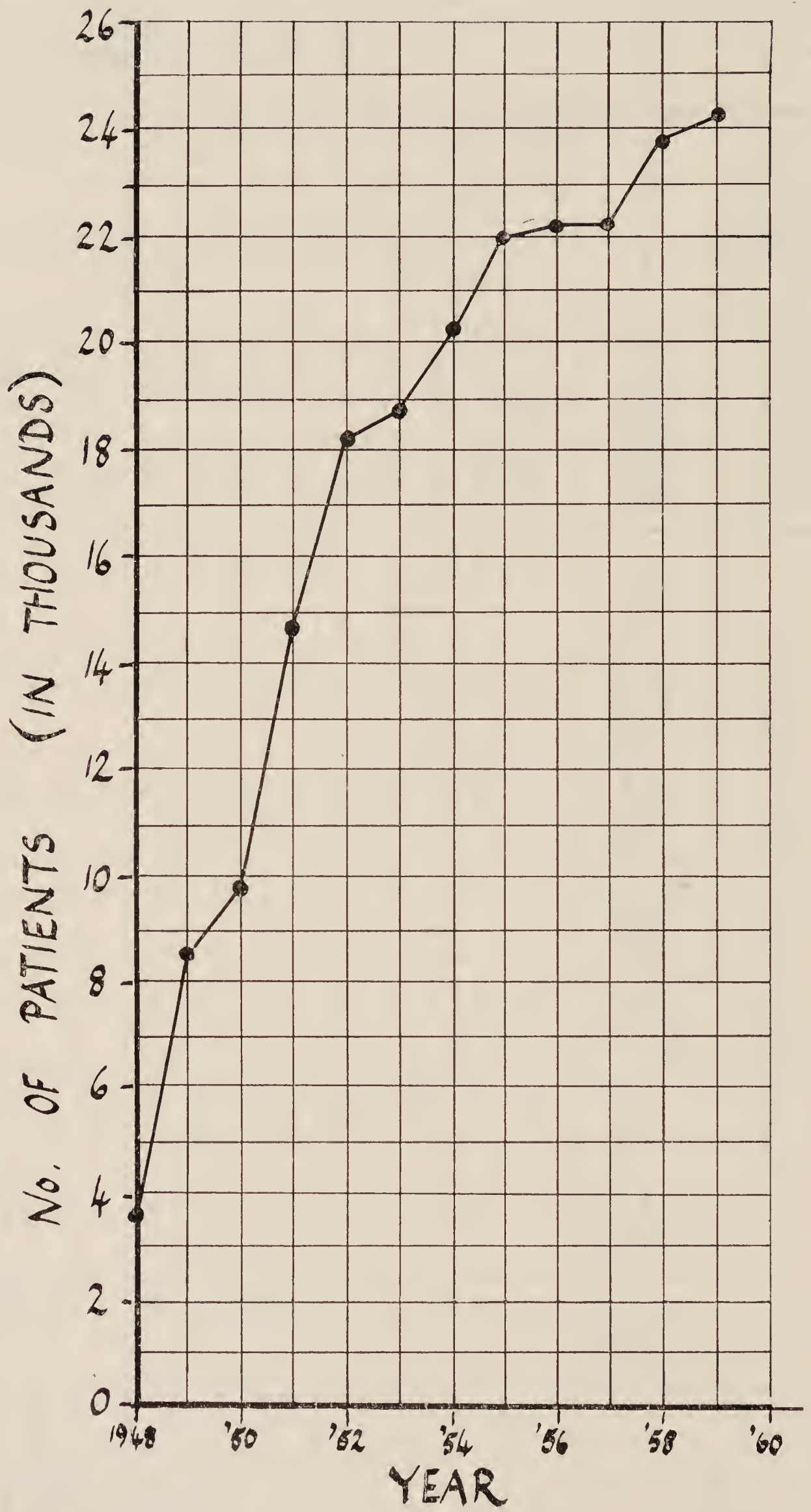
average of 17s. 3d. and the cost per 1,000 population is £240 for this authority as against the national average cost of £302. Vehicle costs are above average, however, the West Hartlepool figure being 3s. 9d. per vehicle mile compared with 3s. 2d. for all local authorities.

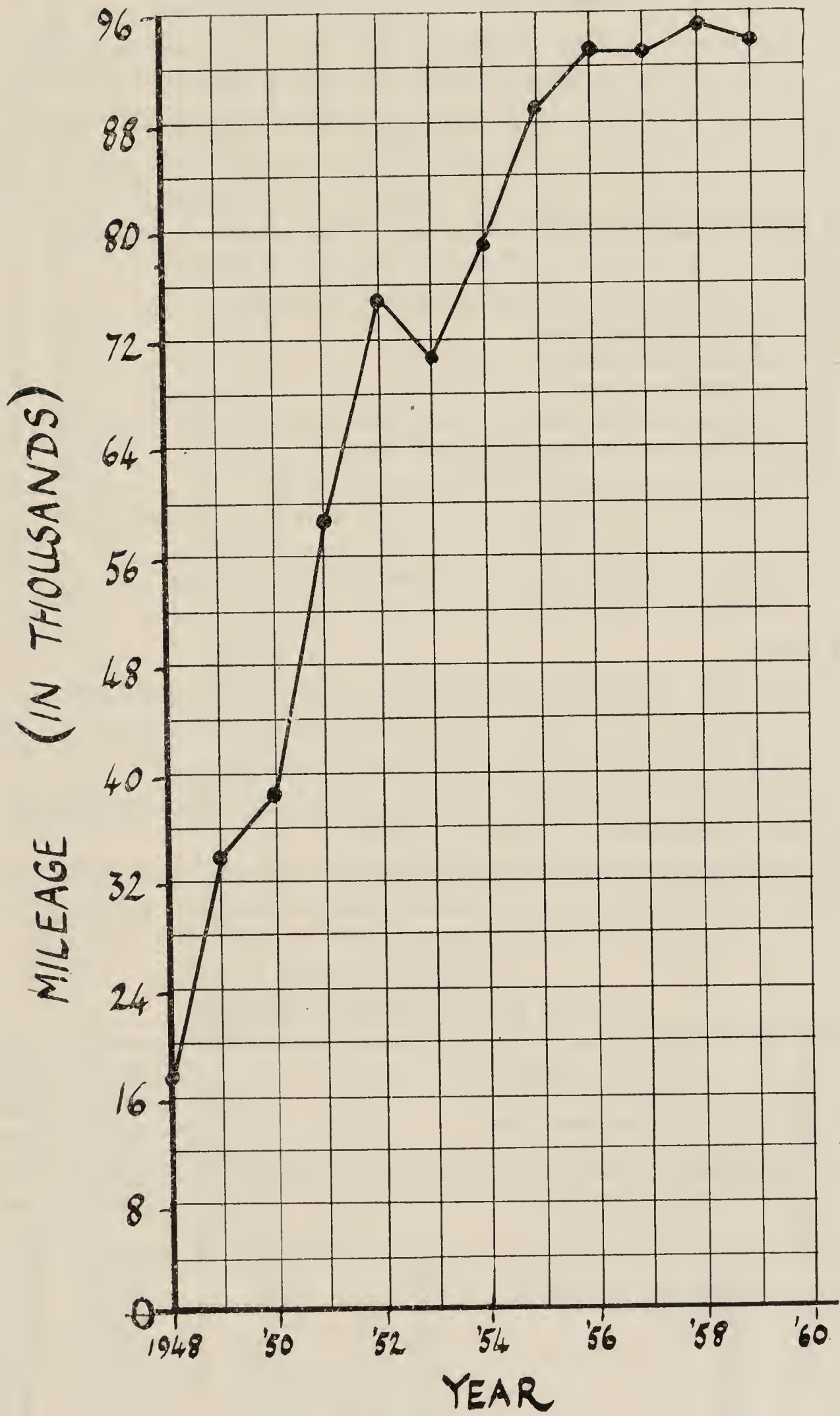
Details of the work are given in the following tables and diagrams.

CASES AND MILEAGE 1955/59.

Year	Within the Borough		Outside the Borough		Totals	
	Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage
1955	19,637	53,811	2,377	35,758	22,014	89,569
1956	19,910	56,857	2,238	37,093	22,148	93,950
1957	20,002	54,875	2,650	38,032	22,652	92,907
1958	22,507	60,257	1,860	35,361	24,367	95,618
1959	23,587	61,207	1,808	33,816	25,395	95,023

1959	CASES WITHIN THE COUNTY BOROUGH										CASES OUTSIDE THE COUNTY BOROUGH		ALL CASES	
	Admit- tances to Hospital	Dis- charges from Hospital	Out Patients	Mater- nity Cases	X-ray Exam- inations	Street Accid- ents, etc.	Works Accid- ents, etc.	Others	Total Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage
January	215	70	1,380	48	6	26	20	103	1,868	4,975	146	2,749	2,014	7,724
February.....	180	70	1,414	51	4	16	24	102	1,861	4,705	153	2,635	2,014	7,340
March	186	65	1,503	64	11	20	17	102	1,968	4,949	138	3,070	2,106	8,019
April	161	46	1,811	48	15	23	14	95	2,213	5,198	206	3,516	2,419	8,714
May.....	125	72	1,602	48	8	50	26	98	2,029	5,175	161	2,897	2,190	8,072
June	157	63	1,614	32	19	39	25	137	2,086	5,376	159	2,842	2,245	8,218
July.....	120	47	1,531	41	8	45	27	120	1,939	5,523	156	3,116	2,095	8,639
August	170	61	1,206	50	15	44	21	135	1,702	5,068	91	2,351	1,793	7,419
September	149	56	1,467	37	8	39	29	99	1,884	4,861	161	3,024	2,045	7,885
October.....	141	67	1,523	45	21	44	30	99	1,970	4,875	129	2,549	2,099	7,424
November.....	168	64	1,659	47	17	38	19	92	2,104	5,176	133	2,407	2,237	7,583
December	176	66	1,467	61	18	33	31	111	1,963	5,322	175	2,660	2,138	7,982
Totals	1,948	747	18,177	572	150	417	283	1,293	23,587	61,207	1,808	33,816	25,395	95,019





PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE TUBERCULOSIS

Report by Dr. J. B. Robinson.

There has been little change in the tuberculosis work during the last year. Notifications are slightly up but this is not necessarily due to increased incidence of the disease; a few have been notified mainly in order to assist in contact examination. Although there is an infective pool in the area, some, being incurable, having organisms resistant to chemotherapy, we have noted suprisingly few new cases with resistant organisms. This is reassuring, and we hope it will not change in the future.

No. of tuberculosis cases on register, 1st January.....	524
No. of new notifications.....	36
No. of transfers from other clinics.....	18
No. of transfers out.....	18
No. of cases written off during the year as dead (all causes)...	13
No. of cases written off as recovered.....	209
No. of cases on register, 31st December, 1959.....	338
Total no. of visits paid by visitors to tuberculosis households.	3454
No. of "no access" visits.....	485
Total no. of attendances by whole-time tuberculosis visitors at chest clinic.....	92

DEATHS.

There were 11 deaths attributable to respiratory tuberculosis during the year which was the same number as in 1958. The death rate in each year was 0.15 per 1,000 estimated resident population.

Other forms of tuberculosis accounted for one death during 1959 which again was the same as in the previous year.

The table below gives the details of the deaths and death rates for respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis for the past ten years.

TUBERCULOSIS
Deaths and Death Rates 1950-59.

Year	NO. OF DEATHS			DEATH RATES (per 1,000 Population)		
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	All Forms	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	All Forms
1950	37	8	45	0.51	0.11	0.62
1951	24	2	26	0.33	0.03	0.36
1952	22	3	25	0.30	0.04	0.34
1953	10	3	13	0.14	0.04	0.18
1954	12	4	16	0.17	0.05	0.22
1955	13	3	16	0.18	0.04	0.22
1956	13	—	13	0.18	0.00	0.18
1957	14	1	15	0.19	0.01	0.20
1958	11	1	12	0.15	0.01	0.16
1959	11	1	12	0.15	0.01	0.16

TUBERCULOSIS — NOTIFIED CASES 1959.

AGE	Lungs			Genito- Urinary System			Meninges			Bones and Joints			Disseminated			Other Forms			All Forms		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 "	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
4 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 "	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
10 "	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
15 "	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
20 "	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5
25 "	2	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
35 "	3	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	4
45 "	4	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	2	7
55 "	2	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
65 "	7	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
65 and over	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
TOTALS.....	20	16	36	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	21	18	39

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

(a) CONTACTS SCHEME.

The work under this scheme is undertaken by the Consultant Chest Physician and the number of persons dealt with during 1959 was :—

(i) No. skin-tested ..	135
(ii) No. found positive	45
(iii) No. found negative	80
(iv) No. vaccinated ..	92

(b) SCHOOLCHILDREN.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered to children in their fourteenth year and in addition it was possible for pupils to receive vaccinations who were not within the specified age range, but in the same class as the pupils who were eligible.

Of the 1,351 pupils to whom testing was offered 950 were subsequently tested. This is a much higher proportion than last year and as a result 822 pupils were eventually vaccinated compared with 575 in 1958.

Further details are given in the table below :—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. to whom Testing was offered	661	690	1,351
Refused	144	238	382
Accepted	517	452	969
Absent and therefore not tested	10	9	19
TESTED	507	443	950
Absent and therefore not read	1	2	3
READ	506	441	947
Tuberculin POSITIVE	66	59	125
Tuberculin Negative and therefore VACCINATED	440	382	822

GERIATRIC VISITING SERVICE.

There exist at present no means of knowing how many old people in a given area are in need of social welfare. Old age is not a notifiable disease and it is contrary to the tradition of this country that any elaborate system of registration with the local authority should be made compulsory.

With a view to obtaining some information with regard to this locally, one of the Council's Health Visitors was from May, 1958 until October, 1959 engaged in following up cases of old people living alone, or aged couples at least one of whom was physically handicapped, coming to the knowledge of members of Staff of the Department e.g. Health Visitors, District Nurses, Duly Authorised Officers, Public Health Inspectors and Home Help Organiser for the purpose of ensuring that such care (including health education, and advice regarding social service available) is given as may seem appropriate.

Unfortunately, it was not possible during 1959 for the Health Visiting Staff to devote as much time as in the previous year to follow-up work, owing to the amalgamation of the Health Visiting/School Nursing Service. The Health Committee, however, received the approval of the Minister of Health to the amendment of its proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946 to enable the visiting to be undertaken by two part-time workers (S.R.N.) and these visitors commenced duty on the 15th and 29th October, 1959 respectively.

The following is a summary of the cases of aged persons covered during 1959 :—

	<i>Living Alone</i>		<i>Living with Relatives, Etc.</i>		<i>Aged Couples</i>	<i>Total No. of Record Cards</i>
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>		
1st January, 1959	32	167	13	64	119	514
New cases during 1959	32	153	9	27	19	259
	64	320	22	91	138	773
Deaths	5	13	—	3	10	41
Permanent admissions to :						
Hospitals ..	—	3	—	2	—	5
Hostels ..	—	6	—	2	—	8
Flatlet	—	1	—	—	—	1
Removed from area ..	1	3	—	—	—	4
31st December, 1959	58	294	22	84	128	714

During 1959 1,807 visits were made to aged persons by Health Visitors and Geriatric Visitors, viz :—

Health Visitors	1,045
Geriatric Visitors.. ..	762
Ineffective Visits....	202

The following is a summary of the physical and other circumstances of the cases visited :—

(a) Substantially physically handicapped so as to make them housebound	94
(b) Handicapped by :—	
Partial vision	32
Blindness	17
Deafness (slight)	32
,, (severe)	5
(c) Mental confusion :—	
To such a degree as to cause anxiety and necessitate constant attention...	—
Slight	10
(d) Suffering from general ill-health.....	111
(e) Poor mobility but nevertheless able to get out and about from time to time.....	90
(f) Requiring visiting because of loneliness due to old age.....	99
(g) Where diet is deficient and meals on wheels would be of benefit.....	10
(h) Where general conditions appear satisfactory in all respects.....	195

The attention of undermentioned officers and organisations were drawn to particular circumstances of cases during the year :—

Chief Public Health Inspector.....	19
Home Help Organiser	18
General Medical Practitioners.....	10
Consultant Geriatrician	12
National Assistance Board	8
Blind Welfare Officer.....	4
Secretaries of Old People's Clubs.....	9
W.V.S. Meals on Wheels	15

Visiting of cases for the ensuing year is recommended as follows :—

	<i>Living Alone</i>		<i>Living with Relatives, Etc.</i>		<i>Aged Couples</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>		
Weekly or less ..	9	21	—	3	—	33
Fortnightly ..	10	29	1	1	2	43
Monthly ..	14	75	2	8	21	120
Two-monthly ..	3	28	3	1	1	36
Quarterly ..	15	110	6	23	33	187
Half-yearly ..	7	27	8	39	56	137
Yearly ..	—	4	2	9	15	30
	58	294	22	84	128	586

GERIATRIC LAUNDRY SERVICE.

In June, 1957 the Council introduced a Geriatric Laundry Service for not more than six cases at any one time.

This service is provided to cases on the recommendation of Dr. Nicholson, Consultant Geriatrician at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool.

During 1959, 20 patients were provided with this service.

HOME NURSING EQUIPMENT.

During 1959 requests for the loan of Home Nursing Equipment were received in respect of 160 new patients.

The following are the particulars of the articles of equipment provided by the Council and the number of occasions on which the respective articles were loaned :—

<i>Stock</i>	<i>No. of times loaned to patients</i>
Air Rings ..	35 30
Bedpans ..	53 46
Bed Rests ..	14 26
Crutches ..	2 prs. 2
Tripod Sticks ..	6 prs. 7
Walking Sticks ..	2 1
Foot Cages ..	12 5
Feeding Trays ..	2 2
Rubber Sheets ..	40 43
Urinals ..	19 21
Wheelchairs ..	2 12
Motor-propelled Chair	1 1
Commode ..	2 5

HEALTH EDUCATION.

More emphasis was given to health education during the year, within the limited time available.

The Health Committee authorised the purchase of a Bell & Howell 16 mm. sound film projector which was delivered towards the end of the year. A selection of films was obtained from the Central Film Library for showing at Infant Welfare Centres.

A programme of films on dental education was shown in selected schools, and the projector was also used at a public meeting held to explain the Council's proposals with regard to the implementation of the Clean Air Act, and at an exhibition concerning smokeless fuels.

Several films were shown to the nursing staffs in connection with in-service training.

The usual display of posters and distribution of leaflets continued at various sites, and a considerable amount of publicity of this nature was organised in connection with the poliomyelitis campaign.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

During the year the service has continued to cover all types of cases. These include illness both of a permanent and temporary nature, and range in degree from the chronic sick to the slightly disabled. Also included are widowers left with young children, maternity cases, problem families, as well as the old and infirm.

The following is a summary of the cases attended :—

Maternity	42
Cancer	10
Heart	25
Disseminated sclerosis & Parkinson's Disease.	12
Strokes	20
Arthritis	23
Fractures	2
Blind	5
Post operation	19
Polio	1
T.B.	3
Widowers with children	4
Problem families	1
Aged and infirm	357
Miscellaneous	59
	<hr/>
	583
	<hr/> <hr/>

The above total is an increase of 20 cases over the previous year, and at the end of the year there were 350 cases on the register, as compared with 341 last year.

This increase continues the trend which has been taking place since the inception of the service. Primarily, the service was instituted for maternity cases only, but as will be seen from the above summary, maternity cases have taken only a small percentage of the help provided (7.2%), which indicates the way in which the service has grown and expanded over the years, until now it is a comprehensive one.

It will be noted that a large part of the help provided is given to the aged and infirm. This, however, is an important aspect of the work, as with the provision of a Home Help, not only is pressure on hospital beds and hostel accommodation being relieved, but it also enables these old people to maintain their independence by being able to remain in their own homes.

All cases are visited as regularly as possible. This is a most essential part of the work, as only in this way can it be seen that help is being fairly allocated, and ensuring that the Home Helps are carrying out their duties satisfactorily.

There were 84 Home Helps employed at the end of the year, working between 20 hours and 44 hours per week, an equivalent of 60 full-time Home Helps.

The staff position has improved during the year. In previous years, on an average 20 Helps left each year, occasionally on domestic grounds, but chiefly for health reasons, and although 15 Home Helps left during the present year, it has been possible to build up the number of Home Helps employed to the authorised number. This has not been possible before, partly on account of the number of resignations of Home Helps, and partly because of the difficulty in obtaining suitable women. In the latter connection, not only must a Home Help be capable of performing all the duties connected with running a home, but she must possess initiative, personal integrity, and also be capable of dealing with 'difficult' personalities.

Undoubtedly the standard of the service depends to a great extent upon the quality of the Home Help, and by and large we have a most competent staff of Helps, many of whom not only have shown great kindness to their cases, but have given services beyond their official duties.

The cost of operating the service during the year was £19,362.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The under-mentioned medical examinations were carried out during the year by the medical staff of the local authority :—

Examinations for employment and superannuation	233
Ministry of Education examinations—	
Form 28 R.Q.	33
,, 4 R.T.C.	28
	—
	61
Examinations on behalf of other local authorities...	—
Medical examination of employees following prolonged absence due to sickness	12
Examinations for admission to Outward Bound Schools.....	4
	—
	310
	<u> </u>

CREMATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health and his Deputy, together with an Assistant Medical Officer when required, act as Medical Referees to the Crematorium which is administered by the Parks and Cemeteries Committee. I am grateful to the Parks and Cemeteries Superintendent for the following details relating to the work of the Crematorium during the year :

NUMBER OF CREMATIONS.

Total number of Cremations since the opening of Crematorium to 31st December, 1958	1,997
Total number of Cremations for the year 1958.....	650
Total number of Cremations for the year to 31st December, 1959	754
Total number of Cremations since the opening of Crematorium to 31st December, 1959	2,751

DISPOSITION OF REMAINS FOR THE YEAR 1959.

Scattered or buried in Grounds	675
Placed, or to be placed, in Niches	—
Placed, or to be placed, in Graves.....	5
Taken away by representatives	74
Awaiting instructions for disposal	—

There were 312 cremations of West Hartlepool residents during the year which is equivalent to 36% of the total deaths, the same as in the previous year.

PROBLEM FAMILIES.

Since October, 1956, regular meetings of officers have been held in accordance with the Joint Circular issued in 1950 by the Home Office, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, to ensure the co-ordination of the Social Services concerned with children in their own homes.

During 1959 six meetings were held at which the following members or their representatives attended :—

Medical Officer of Health (Chairman and Co-ordinating Officer)
 Area Officer, National Assistance Board
 Chief Public Health Inspector
 Housing Officer
 Children's Officer
 Superintendent Health Visitor
 Senior School Nurse
 School Welfare Officers
 Home Help Organiser
 N.S.P.C.C. Inspector
 Probation Officers
 Lay Administrative Officer

(i) NO. OF FAMILIES.

At the 1st January, 1959, the circumstances of 13 families were under consideration by the Committee, and during the year the circumstances of a further 6 families were brought before the Committee from the following sources :—

Health and Welfare Department	5
Children Department	1
	—
	6
	==

(ii) FAMILY SIZE.

The following table indicates the sizes of the families under consideration during the year :—

<i>No. of Children</i>	<i>Families</i>
1	1
2	3
3	4
4	4
5	3
6	1
7	—
8	11
9	1
	—
	19
	==

(iii) FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH FAMILY PROBLEMS.

1. Absence of parent through death, separation, divorce or imprisonment	4
2. Ill-health	1
3. Mental ill-health or mental backwardness ..	1
4. Personality failure	3
5. Housing (overcrowding, eviction or threat of eviction)	10
	—
	19
	==

(iv) TREATMENT.

The following summary shows how the cases were dealt with :—

Families provided with Temporary Accommodation under the National Assistance Act	4 (18 children)
Families provided with a Home Help	2 (8 children)
Children taken into the care of the Local Authority	8 (3 families)
Families rehoused by the Local Authority	4
Families who obtained other accommodation	2
Families who left the district	3

At the end of 1959, 14 problem families, 6 of whom were tenants of Corporation houses, were under the supervision of appropriate officers.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946—SEC. 51.

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959.

(1). ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

(a) GENERAL.

The most significant step forward in the field of Mental Health was the passing by Parliament of the Mental Health Act, 1959. This Act embodies many of the recommendations made by the Royal Commission on the law relating to mental illness and mental deficiency, whose report was published in 1957.

Although the Act has not yet been implemented, many changes of procedure and administration can be envisaged.

Insofar as the Local Health Authority is concerned, the Act emphasises the pre-care and after-care work which is to be undertaken in the community. The co-operation between the Consultant Psychiatrist, the Hospitals, the General Practitioners and the Local Authority's Duly Authorised Officers has always been good but an even greater integration of their work will be necessary if patients are to enjoy the full benefits for which the Act makes provision.

The community in general, and mentally ill patients in particular, will welcome the new Act. Much of the old terminology will disappear. The Lunacy & Mental Treatment Acts and the Mental Deficiency Acts will be repealed and many of the terms used in those Acts will then become obsolete. The majority of patients who need hospital treatment will be admitted to psychiatric hospitals with the same informality as patients admitted to any other hospitals.

The Health Committee has not been slow in anticipating its responsibilities under the new legislation. A Ministry of Health Circular during the year asked local authorities to make an immediate review of their Mental Health Services and to decide on the manner in which they should be developed.

It has been agreed with the Hartlepool Hospital Management Committee to the joint appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker to be employed to work 6/11ths of his time with the Psychiatrist employed by the Regional Hospital Board and 5/11ths with the Council, but repeated advertisements have not produced a single applicant for this post, the reason being that the number of vacancies for such posts far exceeds the number of persons qualified to fill them.

The Committee has approved in principle the provision of an adult training centre in the central area during the financial year 1961/62 at an approximate cost of £25,000, and has also under consideration the question of the adaptation of premises to provide Hostel accommodation and a Mental Health Centre with facilities for a Psychiatric Social Club.

(b) JUNIOR OCCUPATION CENTRE.

Following last year's exclusion of the pupils over 18 years of age, the Centre was temporarily reduced in numbers, but throughout the year the Centre has gradually absorbed those children on the urgent waiting list and by the end of the year was almost fully utilized again.

(c) ADULT OCCUPATION CLASS.

To cater for the mental defectives over the age of 18 who previously attended the Junior Occupation Centre the Health Committee last year set up a part-time adult class in Church premises on three afternoons per week, in charge of an Assistant Supervisor seconded from the Junior Occupation Centre.

At the beginning of 1959, however, a part-time Assistant Supervisor was appointed for five sessions per week, three of which were devoted to taking charge of the adult class and the remaining two on the Home Visiting of the mental defectives under Statutory Supervision.

By the end of the year, a new building providing accommodation for the training of 20 defectives was almost ready for occupation by the adult class, whose number had risen to 16. Of this number 6 had been trained in the making of paper carrier bags, the materials for which were supplied by a local firm. The other pupils were engaged on needlework, basketry and rug-making.

(d) HOME VISITING.

In previous years the Home Visiting of female mental defectives under Statutory Supervision was undertaken by the Council's Health Visitor working in the particular area, but this visiting is now being done by the Part-time Assistant Supervisor.

(e) HOME TRAINING.

The training of defectives at home was initiated by the Part-time Supervisor during the year. Only two defectives, however, were considered suitable for such training and one of these was in fact removed from the Council's Register during the year.

(f) MENTAL DEFECTIVES IN HOSPITAL.

The Board of Control has continued its policy of decertifying most of the certified patients in Mental Deficiency Hospitals. In effect, this merely represents a change in status of the patients as almost all of them are remaining in hospital on an informal basis.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.

(a) The Mental Health Service is directed by the Health Committee, which consists of 11 elected representatives and 2 co-opted members nominated by the West Hartlepool Local Medical Committee.

(b) The staff engaged on this service is as follows :—

The Medical Officer of Health : The Deputy Medical Officer of Health and one of the Assistant Medical Officers of Health : The Lay Administrative Officer : Deputy Lay Administrative Officer, (both of whom are also Duly Authorised Officers) and an Assistant Duly Authorised Officer. The Supervisor, 3 Assistant and 1 Trainee Assistant Supervisors at the Junior Training Centre and the Part-time Assistant Supervisor at the Adult Class.

(c) Medical Practitioners approved by the Minister of Health until the 31st December, 1961, for the purpose of making recommendations for voluntary and temporary treatment under the provisions of Sections 1(3) and 5(3) of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930 :—

Dr. W. M. Conley
Dr. J. Lithgow
Dr. J. E. Mitchell
Dr. W. A. Nicholson
Dr. R. G. Russell

(d) Doctors approved by the Local Health Authority for the purpose of giving medical certificates under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938 :

The Medical Officer of Health
Deputy Medical Officer of Health
Assistant Medical Officer of Health
Dr. W. M. Conley
Dr. G. S. Mather

(e) A Consultant Psychiatrist employed by the Regional Hospital Board at Winterton Hospital held out-patient clinics at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool four times a week.

(3) WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

(a) UNDER THE MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938.

(i) Visits to mental defectives on leave on licence from Mental Deficiency Hospitals were made by the Duly Authorised Officers and regular routine visits to mental defectives under Statutory Supervision were made by the part-time Adult Class Assistant Supervisor.

The number of visits etc. made during 1959 were as follows :—

	<i>Part-time Assistant Supervisor</i>	<i>Duly Authorised Officers</i>	<i>Total</i>
Visits	424	111	535
Ineffective Visits ..	111	27	138
Home Training Sessions	44	—	44
Interviews	—	87	87

(ii) TRAINING.

(a) JUNIOR OCCUPATION CENTRE.

32 defectives under Statutory Supervision, 18 males and 14 females, were on the register at the end of the year.

(b) ADULT CLASS (PART-TIME).

16 defectives under Statutory Supervision, 1 male and 15 females, were on the register and attending for three afternoon sessions per week.

(4) MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS., 1913-1938.

(a) ASCERTAINMENT OF CASES REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

21 cases were reported during the year, namely 4 males and 3 females by the Local Education Authority under Section 57(3) of the Education Act, and 7 males and 2 females under Section 57(5) of the Act; 3 males and 2 females by other sources.

Of this number 13 males and 6 females were placed under Statutory Supervision and 1 male and 1 female were admitted to hospital on an informal basis, the male to Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital and the female to the General Hospital.

(b) TEMPORARY HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

2 males were admitted to Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital during the year for temporary periods in accordance with the provisions of Ministry of Health Circular 5/1952.

(c) PLACE OF SAFETY.

There were no cases admitted to a "Place of Safety" during the year.

(d) GUARDIANSHIP.

There were no defectives under Guardianship during 1959.

(e) REGISTERS.

At the 31st December, 1959, there were 242 defectives on the Council's Mental Deficiency Registers, made up as follows :—

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Under 16	16 & over	Under 16	16 & over	
Under Statutory supervision	22	38	16	42	118
Under Voluntary supervision	—	3	—	—	3
Under Friendly supervision	—	5	2	2	9
In Place of Safety	—	—	—	—	—
In Hospitals	5	57	5	45	112
TOTALS ..	27	103	23	89	242

West Hartlepool patients in Mental Deficiency Hospitals at 31st December, 1959, were as follows :

Hospital	Males	Females	Total
Prudhoe & Monkton	40	9	49
Rampton	4	1	5
Aycliffe	13	10	23
Harton, South Shields	4	—	4
Northgate, Morpeth	1	—	1
Silverton House, Rothbury	—	1	1
General, West H'pool	—	28	28
Durran Hill, Carlisle	—	1	1
TOTALS ..	62	50	112

Of the above, 32 patients (16 males and 16 females) were certified mental defectives ; 78 (45 males and 33 females) were informal patients and 2 (1 male and 1 female) were on leave on licence.

During the year 5 male informal patients, 3 female informal patients, 1 male certified patient and 1 female certified patient were admitted. 1 male certified patient and 2 female certified patients were discharged. 2 male informal patients and 1 female certified patient died.

Mental defectives under supervision within the County Borough at the 31st December, 1959 totalled 130, viz. :—

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Statutory Supervision	60	58	118
Friendly Supervision	5	4	9
Voluntary Supervision	3	—	3
	<hr/> 68	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 130

These are classified as follows :—

Attending Brenda Road Training Centre	17	14	31
Considered suitable for :—			
* (a) Full-time Paper Bag Making	—	8(6)	8
* (b) Part-time Paper Bag Making	—	6(3)	6
* (c) Diversionary Occupation (3 afternoons per week)	—	9(6)	9
* (d) Some form of training	22(1)	—	22
(e) Visiting Only	5	14	19
(f) Home training	1	—	1
In employment	13	10	23
In prison	3	—	3
In remand home	—	1	1
In West Hartlepool General Hospital	2	—	2
Pending Classification	5	—	5
	<hr/> 68	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 130
* Attending Belle Vue Adult Class	1	15	16

(f) Awaiting Admission to Hospitals.

At the 31st December, 1959, there were 3 males and 1 female on the Waiting List for admission to Mental Deficiency Hospitals, all of these being urgent cases.

(5) LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS, 1890-1930.

The services of the Duly Authorised Officers are available at all times, and they are greatly assisted in their work by the co-operation of the respective Medical Superintendents and staffs of the General Hospital, West Hartlepool, and Winterton Hospital, Sedgefield. Special reference must, however, be made of the help given by the staff of the Observation Wards at the General Hospital and in particular by Dr. Roberta Ainsley.

Preventive work in the community is, however, very much restricted owing to the Duly Authorised Officers also having to carry out the duties of Welfare Officers under the National Assistance Act, but nevertheless a

considerable number of patients discharged from hospitals were visited and the help of their families sought in playing their part in helping in the recovery of the patient.

The following are the details of patients dealt with by the Duly Authorised Officers during the year ended 31st December, 1959 :—

Males Females Total

No. of patients admitted to the General Hospital, West Hartlepool, under Sec. 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890.. ..

52 99 151

54 of these cases were dealt with outside normal office hours.

Disposal of patients admitted to the Observation Wards at the General Hospital :—

Voluntary (Mental Treatment Act 1930, Section 1)

10 31 41

Temporary (Mental Treatment Act 1930, Section 5)

4 18 22

Certified (Lunacy Act 1890, Section 16)

9 9 18

Died

— 5 5

Mentally Defective

— 1 1

Durham County Council

9 9 18

Extended Order or discharged ..

20 26 46

52 99 151

In addition to the above, 102 patients were admitted as voluntary patients to the General Hospital, West Hartlepool, and Winterton Hospital and 2 further patients were admitted informally.

There were 214 discharges from hospital during the year.

Age distribution of patients admitted to the Observation Wards at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890 :—

Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—54		55—64		65—74		Over 75		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	1	4	4	8	19	9	16	8	13	7	4	3	21	12	21	52	99

During 1959 the Duly Authorised Officers made 725 home visits to mentally ill patients and had 139 interviews at the Department with patients or their relatives.

WELFARE SERVICES.

The Medical Officer of Health in the capacity of Chief Welfare Officer is responsible to the Welfare Committee for the Welfare Services provided by the Council under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

The Welfare Committee consists of 11 elected representatives (9 of whom are also members of the Health Committee) and 4 co-opted members.

A. RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Council has provided four Hostels for the aged, one for males, two for females and one for both single males and females, and in addition has accommodation for 26 males at the General Hospital, Hostel being premises vested in the Minister of Health.

127 persons were accommodated in the above-mentioned premises at the 31st December, 1959, as under :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Briarfields	40	—	40
Dinsdale Lodge	14	17	31
Fairlawn	—	14	14
Hazelhurst	—	16	16
General Hospital	26	—	26
	—	—	—
	80	47	127
	==	==	==

Included in the above-mentioned total are 7 males accommodated on behalf of the following Local Authorities :—

Durham County Council	5
Sunderland County Borough Council	1
Derbyshire County Council	1
	—
	7
	==

In addition, 3 West Hartlepool residents, for whose maintenance the Council is responsible, were, at the 31st December, 1959, in accommodation provided by voluntary organisations, as follows :—

Tower House Home for Deaf and Dumb Men	1	—	1
Meath Home for Epileptics	—	1	1
Joel Intract Memorial Home of Rest for Aged Jews	—	1	1
	—	—	—
	1	2	3
	==	==	==

The age groups of the residents in the Council's Hostels were as follows :

	<i>Under 60</i>		<i>60-70</i>		<i>71-80</i>		<i>over 80</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Briarfields	2	—	6	—	18	—	14	—	40
Dinsdale Lodge	—	—	4	—	5	8	5	9	31
Fairlawn	—	—	—	3	—	6	—	5	14
Hazelhurst	—	2	—	1	—	6	—	7	16
General Hospital	4	—	5	—	4	—	13	—	26
	6	2	15	4	27	20	32	21	127
	8		19		47		53		

The physical condition of the residents in the Hostels at the 31st December, was as under :—

	<i>Not Aged*</i>		<i>Aged</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Not materially handicapped	1	—	31	18	50
Blind	1	—	3	—	4
Deaf	—	—	2	4	6
Epileptic	1	1	3	—	5
Others physically handicapped	5	2	24	14	45
Mentally handicapped	1	2	8	6	17
	9	5	71	42	127

* Under 65 years of age.

Hostel discharges (including deaths) and admissions during the year 1959 were as follows :—

DISCHARGES.

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
To Hospitals	17	12	29
To Homes of Relatives etc. ..	6	2	8
Deaths	6	4	10
	29	18	47

ADMISSIONS.

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
From Hospitals	18	7	25
From own homes, lodgings, etc. ..	11	11	22
	29	18	47

At the 31st December, 1959, the names of 20 males and 27 females were on the Waiting List for Hostel accommodation.

HOSTEL IMPROVEMENTS.

During the year a lift was installed in Briarfields Hostel at a cost of £1,389 10s. 0d., which now virtually provides ground floor accommodation for all the residents.

The old "Hospital" type beds in the Fairlawn Hostel were replaced by modern wood beds, and it is proposed to make a similar replacement at Hazelhurst Hostel during the financial year, 1960/61.

Four "twin-sets" (combined wardrobe and dressing chest units) were provided for one of the ladies' bedrooms at Dinsdale Lodge Hostel, and it is proposed to provide five additional units during the financial year 1960/61.

NEW HOSTEL.

The Council has received the approval of the Minister of Health to the building of a new Hostel on the Owton Manor Estate to accommodate 45 residents.

Work has now commenced on this Hostel which is expected to be completed by the end of September, 1960.

B. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION.

(i) HOLIDAY, ETC. ARRANGEMENTS.

During the year arrangements were made for two elderly gentlemen and three elderly ladies to be admitted to Hostel accommodation, whilst the persons with whom they resided were on holiday or in hospital.

(ii) GENERAL HOSPITAL HOSTEL.

During 1959 it was found necessary to admit 4 men to temporary accommodation at the General Hospital Hostel for periods varying from 1 night to 22 weeks.

At the 31st December, 1959 one male was in temporary accommodation.

(iii) 118 BURBANK STREET.

At the 31st December, 1959 a woman and her two young sons were accommodated in this temporary accommodation, and during the year it was found necessary to admit 19 women and 44 children to the premises for periods varying from 1 night to 18 weeks.

At the 31st December, 1959 there were 3 women and 7 children in temporary accommodation. One domiciliary confinement took place on the premises during the year.

During the year the Warden made 638 advisory visits to ex-tenants or other families as directed by the Medical Officer of Health.

(iv) CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION WAS PROVIDED.

Circumstances necessitating the provision of temporary accommodation were as follows :—

1. Evictions because of non-payment of rent.....	7
Private houses 5	
Council houses 2	
2. Evictions from furnished accommodation.....	3
3. Eviction from "Service" accommodation	1
4. Eviction from overcrowded conditions.....	1
5. Homeless as a result of no longer being allowed to live with in-laws.....	4
6. Homeless as a result of fire damage.....	1
7. Stranded overnight in West Hartlepool.....	1
8. No fixed abode	5
	—
	23
	==

C. OLD PEOPLE'S FLATLETS.

The Council's Housing Committee in 1958 provided 20 flatlets on the Owton Manor Estate for old people and these are allocated to 12 females and 8 males. The Housing Committee has delegated the question of the nomination of tenants for these flatlets to the Welfare (Flatlets) Subcommittee. These flatlets consist of a bed/living room, kitchenette, bathroom and hall.

The Welfare Committee has appointed a Warden of the flatlets whose principal responsibility is to see to the cleaning of the Communal Room and ancillary rooms and passages, and also the cleaning of the passages and stairs of the flatlets and the general supervision of the tenants.

Home Help services and W.V.S. Meals on Wheels are provided where required.

During the year vacancies arose in 2 of the male flatlets and 3 of the female flatlets and these were filled from the waiting list.

The Welfare Committee asked the Housing Committee to consider the provision of a further 50 flatlets and the Housing Committee agreed to provide a further 16 flatlets during the financial year 1960/61 and reserved a site for the construction in due course of a further 26 flatlets.

At the 31st December, 1959 the names of 10 males and 38 females were on the waiting list for flatlet tenancies.

D. REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.

It was not found necessary during the year to take any action under the National Assistance 1948 (Section 47) or the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951 for the removal of persons to hospital or other West Hartlepool accommodation.

E. TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF PROPERTY OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.

It was not found necessary during the year to arrange for protection of the property of any person admitted to Hospital or to Part III Accommodation.

F. BURIAL OR CREMATION OF THE DEAD.

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 it is the duty of the Council to cause to be buried or cremated any person who died or was found dead in its area, and for the disposal of whose body no other suitable arrangements were being made.

No such arrangements were made by the Council during 1959.

G. "MEALS ON WHEELS" SERVICE.

The W.V.S. continued throughout the year to deliver mid-day meals on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays of each week. A total of 8,507 was delivered during the year 1959. Number of persons receiving meals, 94.

Apart from the delivery of Meals, the W.V.S. also maintained contact with the old people so far as their general welfare was concerned.

The need for the provision of "Meals on Wheels" continues to increase and to meet the needs of this service the Welfare Committee has authorised the purchase of an additional van, which it is hoped to bring into use early in 1960.

H. VISITING, ETC. OF WELFARE CASES.

In addition to the visits (viz.: 1,807) made by the Health Visitors and Geriatric Visitors under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Welfare Officers had 261 interviews with and made 271 visits to Welfare cases during the year.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS

A. BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

The Council's arrangements for the provision of Welfare Services for blind and partially sighted persons in accordance with its scheme under Sections 29 and 30 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, continue to be carried out on its behalf by the Executive Committee of the Hartlepoons Workshops for the Blind.

(a) NEW REGISTRATIONS.

During 1959 there were 25 new registrations of blind and partially sighted persons, as follows :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Blind.....	6	13	19
(ii) Partially Sighted.....	2	4	6
	—	—	—
	8	17	25

(b) REGISTERS.

At the 31st December, 1959, there were 187 names on the Registers, made up as follows :—

(i) NO. OF BLIND PERSONS ON REGISTER AT 31ST DECEMBER—

Under 5	2	1	3
5—15	2	2	4
16—20	2	1	3
21—49	13	8	21
50—64	17	15	32
65 and over	41	55	96
	—	—	—
	77	82	159
	==	==	==

(ii) NO. OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS ON REGISTER AT 31ST DECEMBER

Under 5	—	—	—
5—15	3	1	4
16—20	1	2	3
21—49	1	3	4
50—64	3	1	4
65 and over	5	8	13
	—	—	—
	13	15	28
	==	==	==

(c) NEWLY REGISTERED CASES—CAUSES OF BLINDNESS.

The causes of blindness of the newly registered persons were as under :—

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Myopic Error	..	..	—	1	1
Glaucoma	..	..	1	—	1
Cataract	..	..	3	5	8
General Diseases		..	2	7	9
			—	—	—
			6	13	19
			==	==	==

The following are the details of the follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons :—

Treatment recommended on Form D.B.8.	CAUSE OF DISABILITY				Total
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Senile Macular Degen'tion	Others	
None	—	—	1	3	4
Medical	1	1	—	2	4
Surgical	3	—	—	—	3
Optical	—	—	—	1	1
Hospital Supervision	4	—	2	7	13
	8	1	3	13	25
No. of cases which on follow-up have received treatment	1	—	—	—	1

d. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

(i) Total No. of cases notified during the year	—
(ii) No of cases in which—	
(a) Vision lost	—
(b) Vision impaired	—
(c) Treatment continued at 31st Dec. 1959.	—

(e) CLASSIFICATION OF THE BLIND.

The following are the particulars of the classification of the persons on the Blind Register :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Unemployable	35	49	84
Employable but unemployed ..	—	—	—
Employed as Wage earners ..	11	2	13
Not available for work, household duties, etc.	18	23	41
Trained but unemployed	—	—	—
In training	2	—	2
At school	1	2	3
Not at school	3	1	4
In blind homes	—	1	1
In Part III Accommodation ..	4	2	6
In hospitals	3	2	5
	—	—	—
	<u>77</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>159</u>

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF THE BLIND.

The following are the details of the occupations of the employed Blind Persons :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Basket Making.....	4	—	4
Mat Making.....	2	—	2
Stick Bundling.....	3	—	3
Shorthand Typist.....	—	1	1
Physiotherapist	—	1	1
Other industry	2	—	2
	—	—	—
	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>13</u>

At the request of the Principal of the Royal Normal College for the Blind, the Council's Welfare Committee purchased for the use of the Shorthand Typist a Braille shorthand machine and guide, and a portable typewriter fitted with a Braille scale.

This typist is at present employed in the Town Clerk's Department of the West Hartlepool Corporation.

(g) HOME TEACHING SERVICE.

The Home Teacher made 1,548 home visits during the year and gave lessons in Handicrafts, Braille, Moon and typewriting. She also assisted in letter writing, shopping, repair of clothing, etc., making of hospital appoint-

ments, ordering of magazines and apparatus. Contacted National Assistance Board with regard to the installation of wirelesses in the homes of newly registered persons where required.

Braille literature continued to be available to all blind persons either at West Hartlepool Public Library or direct from the National Institute for the Blind.

(h) SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

Handicraft Classes continued to be held at the Social Club for the Blind on Tuesday afternoons each week. Social evenings were held at the Club monthly. The Annual Outing was held in July and a party arranged at Christmas time.

B. DEAF AND DUMB.

(a) The Council's arrangements for the provision of Welfare Services for the Deaf or Dumb in accordance with its scheme under Sections 29 and 30 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, continue to be carried out on its behalf by the Northumberland and Durham Mission for the Deaf and Dumb, the services of whose Missioner are allocated on the basis of two-fifths for the West Hartlepool County Borough Council and three-fifths for Durham County Council.

(b) NUMBER ON REGISTERS.

There were no new registrations during the year and the number of persons on the registers at the 31st December, 1959 were as follows :—

		Children under 16	Persons aged 16-64	Persons aged 65 and over	Total
Deaf	M	6	16	2	24
	F	8	16	2	26
Hard of Hearing	M	2	6	—	8
	F	1	5	—	6
TOTAL ..		17	43	4	64

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF DEAF PERSONS ON THE REGISTER :—

<u>Degree of Deafness</u>	<u>Cause of Deafness</u>	<u>Degree of Speech</u>
Total..... 42	Born Deaf..... 36	Normal Nil
Severe..... 7	Acquired..... 14	Indistinct but
Slight..... 1		intelligible..... 11
		Unintelligible..... 39
—	—	—
50	50	50
==	==	==

(d) CLASSIFICATION OF HARD-OF-HEARING PERSONS ON THE REGISTER :

<u>Degree of Deafness</u>		<u>Cause of Deafness</u>		<u>Degree of Speech</u>	
Total	4	Born Deaf	Nil	Normal	8
Severe	9	Deafness acquired .	14	Indistinct but	
Slight	1			intelligible	6
				Unintelligible	Nil
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	14		14		14
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

(e) SOCIAL WELFARE.

No Home Teaching is carried out by the Staff of the Mission. The ordinary deaf are able to go out to earn their living and there are no deaf who require special occupational provision comparable to the service rendered by home teachers for the blind.

The Social Club is open several nights each week and regular programmes of activities and entertainments arranged. The Mission is also open on Sunday evenings for Church services.

Outings were arranged during the summer months.

No school-leavers required the help of the mission during the year.

(f) EMPLOYMENT.

Three men were placed in employment after leaving other employment.

Employment has not been as steady as in previous years, although no deaf person willing and able to work was unemployed at the 31st December, 1959. At that date there were 20 male and 4 female deaf persons employed in the following occupations :—

<i>Males</i>	
French Polishers	2
Iron Moulders	2
Boot Repairer	1
Joiners	2
Gardeners	1
Labourers	8
Window Cleaner	1
Upholsterer	1
Painter	1
Apprentice Cooper	1

Females

Clothing Machinists	2
Carpet Repairers	2
	—
	4
	==

C. GENERAL CLASSES.

The Council has not yet made a scheme under the National Assistance Act, 1948 with respect to the general classes of handicapped persons.

D. EPILEPTICS

There are 4 male and 1 female epileptics in Part III Accommodation under the National Assistance Act, all of whom are well cared for. In addition, the Council are financially responsible for the maintenance of a female epileptic in the Meath Home for Epileptics.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

By (MR. R. EMERSON, Chief Public Health Inspector).

1959 began with domestic upheaval following an office fire and although this event caused considerable inconvenience, the loyalty and willingness of the staff prevailed, and it is fair to say that it did not seriously affect the work of the department.

There have been three important events in the field of housing. The most important was the acceptance in principle by the council of my proposals for a further clearance programme beginning in 1964 when the present one finishes. This programme envisages the demolition of 150 houses per year from 1964 to 1975. Secondly, the current programme of 250 slum clearance rehousings per year has again been reached and at last the end of the clearance of properties in the southern part of the central area is in sight. The introduction of the standard improvement grant, the third important event of the year, was undoubtedly successful, and if the interest is sustained during the next few years, the scheme may contribute something worthwhile towards the improvement of areas of houses, but so far, with only isolated properties being dealt with, it has made no real impact on the overall problem.

Housing, then, remains the biggest problem and whilst it is still distressing to see the conditions under which some West Hartlepool residents live, the emphasis is changing from the clearance of real "slums" to the clearance of sub-standard houses which, because of their structural condition and their congestion, cannot be improved. This work must be pursued with vigour for many years to come.

With regard to atmospheric pollution, the good work in reducing industrial pollution goes on steadily, but with regard to domestic pollution, little actual progress has been made, although the vociferous arguments of those who opposed the Health Committee's decision to ask for provisional approval to a smoke control area have certainly ensured that most people in the town now know of smoke control areas, even if the method of operation is still misunderstood. One of the most significant changes during the year has been the improvement in the grading and quality of open fire coke available locally. There is, however, still an intense public dislike of coke—much of it arising through lack of knowledge of the various qualities suitable for different purposes. The Clean Air Exhibition and the Coal Utilisation Council's exhibition house did much to help in this work but very much remains to be done to explain that smoke control areas are a way to an improved standard of living for the community.

The value of having no staff changes during the year has been shown in the report. At last it has been possible to begin doing some of the work which has been outstanding for some years; for instance, the routine inspection of licensed premises and schools has been recommenced and the serving of notices to abolish ash-pits has continued. Details of these and other branches of the department's work are given in the following pages.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

2,300 complaints of all kinds were received during the year, including 398 concerning rats and mice.

The following visits were made :—

Dwelling houses (Public Health Act)	3,189
„ (Housing Act)	1,717
„ (Rent Act)	137
Overcrowded houses	34
Ashpit survey	524
Water supply	211
Licensed tents and caravans	44
Unlicensed tents and caravans	82
Inspections for vermin (including treatments)	1,796
Infectious diseases and disinfections	440
Factories	99
Workplaces	1
Boilerhouses and industrial plant	118
Deposit Gauges	72
Offensive trades	9
Swimming baths	11
Schools	104
Places of public entertainment	27
Public conveniences	61
Pet shops	5
Shops	261

SANITARY DEFECTS DISCOVERED AND DEALT WITH BY THE SERVICE OF INFORMAL OR STATUTORY NOTICES.

HOUSES.

REPAIRS To :—

Roofs.....	140
Spouts and fallpipes.....	150
External walls and chimneys.....	65
Internal wall and ceiling plaster.....	73
Damp walls	71
Doors	82
Windows.....	74
Floors	74
Subfloor ventilation	6
Staircase	10
Fireplaces and flues	16
Kitchen ranges	10
Sinks.....	15
Rainwater pumps and wells	19
Water pipes and taps.....	26
Hot Water Systems	10
Baths and lavatory basins.....	13

Water closets—

Basins.....	50
Cisterns.....	57
Seats.....	7
Water supply pipes.....	18
Stopped drains and water closets.....	151
Other defective drains.....	11
Yard paving.....	11

PROVISION OF :—

Internal water supplies.....	9
Internal sinks.....	9
Cooking facilities.....	6
Additional water closet.....	4
Artificial lighting	1
Dustbins.....	182
Washing facilities	2

CLEANSING OF :—

Rooms, passages and staircases.....	10
Yard areas	3
Premises made secure	2
Fixed ash closets abolished.....	87
Offensive accumulations removed	7
Discontinue keeping pigeons.....	2
Fill in rainwater wells.....	6
Other defects.....	4

ASHPITS.

The survey with a view to ridding the town of ashpits has been continued, although not so quickly as had been hoped. A further 87 ashpits have been abolished and replaced by dustbins.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

As stated in last year's report, arrangements have been made with the Hospital Management Committee for the use of their steam disinfection apparatus should the need arise. The Burn Road disinfecting station was relinquished by the Health Committee at the beginning of the year.

Once again the work of the disinfestation service has tended to increase.

HOUSING.

The number of inhabited houses in the Borough at the end of 1959 was 23,211, with a population of 75,400. This gives a figure of 3.24 persons per house.

During 1959, 321 houses were built by private enterprise and 230 houses and 48 flats were built by the Corporation.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	919
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	4,906
(2) (a) No. of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	354
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose.....	1,416
(3) No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	354
(4) No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	565

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....	338
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957—

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	30
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	25
(b) By local authority in default of owners	3

C.	Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957—	
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	2
(2)	No. of Closing Orders made on whole houses.....	1
(3)	No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
(4)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the houses having been rendered fit...	—
D.	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957—	
(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	—

4. HOUSING ACT, 1957, PART IV, OVERCROWDING :—

It is not possible to give accurate figures of the present overcrowding position without a survey being carried out.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Towards the end of the year the Council reconsidered its slum clearance programme and decided in principle to include a further 1,653 houses on the list of properties which are likely to be dealt with by clearance before 1975. The reasons for doing this were to give owners and would-be owners the best possible information as to the probable life of the properties and also to clearly indicate which houses in the town would have an expected life of at least 15 years and so qualify for an improvement grant.

The first slum clearance programme of 2,452 houses which was originally to be completed in 1966 now seems likely to be completed by 1964, and the Council have decided that clearance should continue at 250 houses per year until then and thereafter at 150 houses per year.

The opportunity was taken to make minor corrections to the original programme and the position now is :—

No. of houses to be dealt with between 1955 and 1975.	4,083
No. demolished to date.....	1,125
No. of houses empty and awaiting demolition.....	89
	<hr/>
No. of houses remaining to be dealt with.....	2,869
	<hr/>

278 unfit houses have been vacated during the year.

Five clearance areas were declared during the year comprising 317 houses. Details of these are as set out below :—

CENTRAL AREA PROGRAMME.

(i) CLEARANCE AREAS REPRESENTED—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of Clearance Areas</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
9/4/59	10A	1	9
30/4/59	9B	1	109
5/11/59	10B	1	125

(ii) PUBLIC INQUIRIES HELD—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of Clearance Areas</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
6/1/59	9A	1	94
28/10/59	10A	1	9

(iii) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS CONFIRMED BY MINISTER—

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>No. of Clearance Areas</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
8/1/59	8B	1	136
28/4/59	9A	1	94

OTHER AREAS.

(i) CLEARANCE AREAS REPRESENTED—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
5/2/59	1	Dover St. to Exeter St.	48
30/7/59	1	Barnard St. to Stranton	26

(ii) PUBLIC INQUIRIES HELD—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
19/8/59	1	Burbank Street	71
28/10/59	1	Dover St. to Exeter St.	48

(iii) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER CONFIRMED BY MINISTER—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
30/10/59	1	Burbank Street	71

(iv) CLEARANCE ORDER CONFIRMED BY MINISTER—

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
18/2/59	1	Baltic Street	8

COUNCIL PROPERTIES.

<i>Date</i>	<i>No. of clearance areas</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
2/7/59	1	Mainsforth Terrace	20

The certificate of unfitness issued on these properties was approved by the Minister on 20th August, 1959.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

An abatement notice served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act on an owner to carry out certain repairs at a house was not complied with and an application was made to the court for a nuisance order. This was granted and a fine of 15/- imposed. The work was subsequently carried out by the owner.

A notice served under Section 36 of the Housing Act, 1957, relating to lack of facilities in a house let in lodgings was not complied with. The magistrates imposed the maximum penalty of £5. The total weekly rent being charged by the owner at the time was £5 15s. 0d.

RENT ACT, 1957.

(1) No. of applications for certificates of disrepair.....	27
(2) No. of decisions not to issue certificates.....	Nil
(3) No. of decisions to issue certificates.....	27
(a) in respect of some but not all defects.....	15
(b) in respect of all defects.....	12
(4) No. of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule.....	21
(5) No. of undertakings refused by local authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(6) No. of certificates issued.....	7
(7) Applications by landlords to local authority for cancellation of certificates.....	13
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	2
(9) Decisions by local authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection.....	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by local authority.....	12
(11) Certificates of disrepair in force 31.12.59.....	29

These figures are only about a fifth of those for last year and they are decreasing each quarter, and it seems that in this area at least, tenants will probably use this act as infrequently as they used the old Rent & Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

In May the Coal Utilisation Council improved, with the help of a grant from the Council, No. 15 Johnson Street and opened the house for display for one month. Some 4,000 people visited the exhibition and this, together with the advent of the new Standard Grants under the House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959, has undoubtedly given a new impetus to this work. In close co-operation with the Borough Engineer's Department, some 172 visits have been made to advise owners on the types of improvements qualifying for grant and 28 applications for discretionary grants and 44 for standard grants were approved by the Council during the year. It is estimated that there are some 3,850 houses in the town with a life of more than 15 years not provided with bathrooms, so there is still great scope for the extension of this scheme. There still appears to be no interest by landlords to take advantage of the act.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Arrangements for the inspection and disposal of unfit food were as in previous years.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

During the year, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food required local authorities to start consultations with all interested parties on the future requirements for slaughterhouses in their district and preliminary steps were taken to comply with this order. As there are no private slaughterhouses in use and no demand for any additional facilities, it seems apparent that the existing public abattoir will serve this area for many years to come and the submission of the report will be little more than a formality.

The new Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 came into force during the year and work on the provision of two double sided stunning pens at the public abattoir was commenced.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

The administration of the Diseases of Animals Act and Orders made thereunder is carried out by this Department.

96 visits have been made in connection with movement licences and 13 visits to premises registered under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

There were no notifications of infectious animal diseases received.

TUBERCULOSIS

For the fourth successive year no milk arriving at the local pasteurisation plant has been found to contain tubercle bacilli.

The figures of animals found to have tuberculosis on slaughter are the lowest recorded for both cattle and pigs. The figures are 5.5% cattle and 1.8% pigs.

BRUCELLA ABORTUS.

Out of 69 samples of milk examined for the presence of this organism, three were found to be positive, two of these being from one supplier. The Divisional Veterinary Officer was notified in each case.

KNACKER'S YARD.

There is only one licensed knacker's yard in the County Borough, and it is maintained in very good order. In accordance with the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954, the occupier submitted the following return for 1959 :—

Total No. of horses slaughtered in the licensed knacker's yard —

Total No. of carcasses of horses received in the knacker's yard46

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

For selling ice cream below the standard laid down in the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959, a local manufacturer was fined £10.

A local bakery firm was fined £5 for selling bread contaminated by bird droppings after being warned of the likelihood of this contamination occurring. This prosecution was taken under Section 8 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

A bottle of milk containing a piece of rusty wire led to a local dairy company being fined £10 for an offence under Section 27 of the Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

In addition to the above, the following complaints of unfit food were amongst those drawn to the department's attention during the year :—

- A pie containing a piece of solder
- A loaf of bread containing a pin
- A cheese roll containing a bandage
- A jar of jam containing a piece of straw
- A loaf of bread contaminated with mouse droppings
- A tin of fish containing a fly.

In many instances concerning unfit food, the complainants were not prepared to give evidence or the evidence was not sufficient to merit prosecutions. In all cases, however, the complaints were followed up and, if substantiated, warning letters sent to the firms concerned. Seventeen such letters were sent and in addition five farmers were warned that whilst their milk was genuine, it was below standard. Particulars of these milk samples are given in the following table.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

As in previous years regular sampling of milk was carried on from local dairies, milk shops and schools. Milk bottles were also sent for bacteriological examination after cleaning, and examination of milk churns was carried out.

The results of bacteriological examinations are set out below :

1. RAW MILK

No. of samples taken for examination			Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
For presence of Tubercle bacilli	For Methylene Blue Reduction Test	For presence of Brucellus abortus			
5 59	— —	— —	Local Supply Supply from outside borough	5 negative 59 negative	— —
—	16	—	Supply from outside borough	8 satisf'y. 8 unsatisf'y	— Responsible authority notified.
—	—	8	Local Supply	8 negative	—
—	—	61	Supply from outside borough	58 negative 3 positive	Responsible authority notified.

2. PASTEURISED MILK

No. of samples taken for examination		Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
For Methylene Blue Reduction Test	For Phosphatase Test			
21	—	Local Supply	20 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory	— Dairy warned
—	22	Local Supply	20 satisfactroy 2 unsatisfactory	— Dairy warned
63	—	Supply from outside borough	60 satisfactory 3 unsatisfactory	— Responsible authority notified
—	68	Supply from outside borough	67 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory	— Responsible authority notified

3. STERILISED MILK

No. of samples submitted for Turbidity Test	Source of Supply	Result	Action taken
24	Supply from outside borough	24 Satisfactory	—

4. 6 bottle counts taken were fairly satisfactory.

Note : All milk sold in the County Borough has to be Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised in accordance with the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1955.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM, 1959.

TOTAL SAMPLES	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
153 100%	88 57.5%	21 13.7%	17 11.1%	27 17.7%

One particular ice-cream plant has been responsible for many of the unsatisfactory results during the year and the proprietor has been warned that unless some improvement is forthcoming his licence may be in jeopardy. On the whole it must be said that the results are disappointing after the improvements of previous years.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Routine visits to food premises were continued during the year, and a total of 130 premises were inspected in detail under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Towards the end of the year a start was made on a comprehensive survey of public houses and licensed clubs in the town, and it is intended that all such premises will be visited and brought up to the standard of the Regulations.

Details of the types of premises in the town are set out below :—

Bakehouses	35	Greengrocers' shops	59
Bakers' shops.....	46	Grocers' shops	87
Butchers' shops.....	82	Licensed clubs	37
Cafes	26	Snack Bars.....	23
Chemists' shops	27	Sweet shops	86
Dairies and milk shops.....	11	Wholesale grocers	13
Wet and dry fish shops	19	Food factories	20
Fried fish shops.....	47	School canteens and dining	
General shops	176	centres.....	24
Hotels and public houses.....	65	Factory canteens.....	6

N.B.—Where two or more types of trade are carried on in the same building, only those which form a substantial part of the whole business have been included in the above table.

FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>Number registered</i>
Ice cream (manufacture, storage and sale).....	264
Sausages and preserved meats (manufacture).....	90
Preserved fish (manufacture).....	58

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>Number</i>
Dairies	12
Dairies pasteurising milk.....	1
Milkshops selling pasteurised milk	78
Milkshops selling sterilised milk	152
Milkshops selling tuberculin-tested milk.....	15

An analysis of 1,761 visits made to food premises is given below :—

<i>Type of premises</i>	<i>No. of visits</i>
Dairies.....	47
Milk Shops	116
Bakehouses.....	43
Fried fish shops.....	29
Ice cream premises	162
Butchers' shops.....	104
Other food shops.....	306
Cafes	76
School meals kitchen	48
Licensed premises	76
Public abattoir	754

<i>Type of improvement to food premises</i>	<i>No. of instances</i>
Food rooms cleansed or re-decorated.....	17
Food rooms repaired.....	5
Hot water supply provided.....	17
Washing basins provided.....	17
Prevention of contamination of food.....	8
Miscellaneous requirements complied with under Food Hygiene Regulations	38

WATER SUPPLY

The town's water supply continues to be provided by the Hartlepool Water Company and remains of excellent quality. It is pleasing to record that, whilst many parts of the country were short of water during the summer, there was no shortage in this area.

A typical chemical analysis is given below for a sample taken in the central part of the town.

CHEMICAL RESULTS.	<i>Parts per Million</i>
Total solids dried at 180°C.....	540
Chlorine as chlorides	76.3
Free ammonia	Trace
Albuminoid ammonia.....	Trace
Nitrogen as nitrates	Trace
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C.).....	2.2
Total hardness.....	413
Non-carbonate hardness	128
Carbonate hardness	285
Lead and Copper.....	None
Iron.....	Trace
Appearance and Colour (Hazen degrees 10)	Clear and ex. pale yellow
Smell and Taste	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit.....	Satisfactory
pH Value	7.3

REPORT.

This sample of water is of very satisfactory organic purity. The water is hard and the chloride content is somewhat higher than in inland waters.

The water is free from deposit, it is of good colour and is free from odour or taste.

I am of the opinion that this is an excellent drinking water.

49 routine bacteriological samples were taken of mains water and 48 were Class I and one was Class II—a very satisfactory state of affairs.

A large private supply was also regularly sampled during the year and 29 samples were Grade I and one was Grade II. A chemical sample from this source was also found to be satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

In the early part of the year there was an outbreak of Salmonella Food Poisoning which affected a considerable number of residents in the area. The outbreak proved to be part of a larger one covering much of the Tees-side area and was caused by the use of infected frozen egg in the manufacture of cream cakes.

Whilst there were only 14 notified cases in this area, and a further six otherwise ascertained, 53 symptomless excretas were found amongst relatives of the patients and staff of the shops retailing the cakes. In all, 71 cakes were sampled, 251 faeces specimens taken from patients, staff or contacts, and six persons were excluded from work for a time. The symptoms were generally not too serious and only two persons were admitted to hospital.

There was one isolated case of food poisoning later in the year and the remaining cases of infectious disease investigated by public health inspectors were of scarlet fever. One case of poliomyelitis occurred in the area.

408 visits were made by public health inspectors in investigating notifications of infectious disease.

CARAVANS.

The final solution to the problem of residential caravans has not yet been found. During the year the Health Committee discussed the possibility of providing a residential site but finally it was decided not to proceed with a municipal site as there was a good prospect of development of a combined holiday and residential site by a private company. It was again obvious during the year that the lack of proper residential caravan sites in the north east was causing considerable hardship to mobile workers but it is of course open to argument whether this method of living ought to be encouraged.

Two small private sites were licensed under the Public Health Act for a total of three caravans.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

	<i>Number</i>
Rag and Bone Dealers	4
Gut Scrapers	2
Tripe Boilers	2
Bone Boiler	1
Fat Renderer	1
Slaughter House	1

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The following improvements were effected as a result of notices served :

Ventilation improved	2
Sanitary accommodation repaired	6
Sanitary accommodation improved	15
Sanitary accommodation cleansed or re-decorated	7

In addition, a number of food shops were provided with washing facilities as a result of notices served under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There are 6 premises registered for upholstering under Section 2 of the Act. Two visits were made to these premises and four samples of upholstery fillings were taken, which proved satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Of the six premises previously licensed, five were relicensed and one ceased to operate as a pet shop.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There is in the area one municipal swimming bath, 100' \times 40', with a capacity of 125,000 gallons of sea water. The sea water is passed into a large settling tank and when required for topping up is fed into the bath outlet main, after which all of the water is subject to straining, sand filtration, aeration and chlorination before being returned to the bath. A complete change of water takes place every 3½ hours.

Bacteriological samples have been taken throughout the year from both the inlet and outlet of the bath. Out of 20 samples taken, 18 were satisfactory, one was fairly satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

During the year a comprehensive survey was undertaken of all the schools in the town. Fifty-six schools or departments were visited, particular attention being paid to sanitary and washing facilities, kitchens and dining halls, refuse disposal and boiler plant. Where necessary, reports were submitted to the Director of Education.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

35 visits have been made to farms and smallholdings likely to come under the provisions of this Act. It has not been found necessary to serve any notices.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Council have considered the domestic smoke problem and in June received provisional approval from the Minister of Housing & Local Government for the introduction of a smoke control area in that part of the town bounded by York Road, Victoria Road, Grange Road, Wooler Road and Park Road. The area comprises 1,032 houses of various sizes and types together with 40 commercial and other premises. The Health Committee have, however, delayed making a full survey of the area pending further assurances from the Minister on the availability of a sufficient variety of smokeless fuels.

The Committee also informed the Minister that they could not formulate a five year programme at the present time.

In co-operation with the Tees-side Smoke Abatement Committee, an exhibition was held in the Town Hall to show the various types of smokeless fuels available. This exhibition was attended by about 1,250 people. In addition one public meeting and five lectures were arranged during the year and 338 people attended.

118 visits have been made to boiler houses during the year and 89 smoke observations made. No applications have been received for prior approval and no notifications of new furnaces received.

The instruments for measuring air pollution remain unchanged and the results are set out below.

WIND RECORDS (in hours per month).

MONTH	DIRECTION OF WIND									
	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm	No record
January	60.0	20.0	7.0	9.5	135.0	125.5	94.0	153.5	1.5	138.0
February . .	27.0	45.0	38.0	6.5	123.0	352.0	58.0	12.5	6.0	4.0
March	54.5	75.5	86.0	71.5	236.0	150.5	42.5	23.5	4.0	—
April	70.5	58.5	23.5	12.5	150.0	216.5	130.5	43.5	14.5	—
May	213.5	218.5	37.5	7.5	29.0	72.0	73.0	51.5	41.5	—
June	72.0	132.5	33.5	14.0	62.5	163.5	144.5	55.0	31.5	11.0
July	65.5	59.5	21.0	7.0	165.0	232.5	122.5	44.5	17.5	9.0
August	124.0	104.5	37.5	25.0	79.5	153.0	94.5	46.5	20.5	59.0
September . .	88.0	87.5	55.0	17.0	61.5	226.5	63.0	25.5	74.0	22.0
October	28.0	63.5	53.5	52.5	126.5	214.5	84.5	67.5	40.5	13.0
November . .	13.5	35.0	69.5	24.5	325.5	164.0	39.0	33.5	15.5	1.0
December . . .	6.5	10.0	123.0	8.0	211.0	203.0	51.5	60.0	8.5	62.5
Average	68.6	75.8	48.7	21.2	142.0	189.5	83.1	51.4	23.0	—

MONTH	GRAY ART GALLERY			GRANTULLY			DYKE HOUSE SCHOOL			GOLDEN FLATTS SCHOOL			ROSSMERE SCHOOL		
	Total	Insoluble	Soluble	Total	Insoluble	Soluble	Total	Insoluble	Soluble	Total	Insoluble	Soluble	Total	Insoluble	Soluble
January	22.85	11.31	11.54	22.34	7.48	14.86	22.11	6.24	15.87	20.64	5.57	15.07	12.49	4.97	7.52
February.....	11.17	5.57	5.60	9.42	3.84	5.58	8.25	3.42	4.83	7.08	3.59	3.49	7.79	3.49	4.30
March	19.45	13.18	6.27	19.28	10.85	8.43	16.78	9.13	7.65	24.19	14.26	9.93	18.66	9.40	9.26
April	10.51	8.57	1.94	17.41	11.29	6.12	14.50	6.78	7.72	18.53	9.30	9.23	13.66	6.54	7.12
May.....	12.51	8.11	4.40	12.99	7.00	5.99	14.63	6.04	8.59	27.25	15.57	11.68	*	*	*
June.....	14.58	9.64	4.94	20.19	12.95	7.24	14.20	7.35	6.85	21.48	11.91	9.57	18.59	10.27	8.32
July.....	16.04	9.57	6.47	19.59	10.78	8.81	13.83	6.68	7.15	25.31	14.67	10.64	18.26	8.83	9.43
August.....	14.71	11.38	3.33	14.76	9.86	4.90	11.44	5.27	6.17	15.03	8.86	6.17	9.60	5.04	4.56
September.....	23.12	7.27	15.85	9.79	7.48	2.31	10.70	5.67	5.03	18.69	9.09	9.60	13.26	8.02	5.24
October.....	15.18	9.17	6.01	19.14	11.15	7.99	16.92	6.28	10.64	18.12	6.98	11.14	12.78	4.46	8.32
November.....	13.54	9.57	3.97	28.02	9.25	18.77	29.94	6.58	23.36	20.30	7.99	12.31	22.86	8.46	14.40
December.....	28.79	5.24	23.55	32.78	8.84	23.94	41.88	6.31	35.57	49.17	9.33	39.84	39.33	10.17	29.16
TOTAL.....	202.45	108.58	93.87	225.71	110.77	114.94	215.18	75.75	139.43	265.79	117.12	148.67	187.28	79.65	107.63
AVERAGE.....	16.9	9.0	7.8	18.8	9.2	9.6	17.9	6.3	11.6	22.1	9.8	12.4	17.0	7.2	9.8

* No Readings.

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS.

MONTH	GRAY ART GALLERY	GOLDEN FLATTS SCHOOL
	Expressed as milligrams of SO_3 per 100 square centimetres per day.	Expressed as milligrams of SO_3 per 100 square centimetres per day.
January.....	2.23	1.76
February.....	1.97	1.76
March	1.64	1.35
April .....	.91	1.14
May .....	.76	.72
June.....	.58	.82
July.....	.55	.68
August .....	.39	.64
September ..	.73	1.01
October.....	1.18	.50
November...	2.12	4.09
December...	2.37	1.67

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Summary of Surface Infestations, 1st April, 1959, to 31st December, 1959.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (incl. Coun- cil Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
I. No. of properties in Local Authority's District.....	154	22,827	2,836	25,817	35
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification... ..	10	308	54	372	10
(b) Survey under the Act.....	16	320	43	379	11
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	Nil	26	Nil	26	Nil
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	83	1,603	392	2,078	131
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats { Major.....	1	Nil	Nil	1	9
{ Minor.....	5	67	32	104	9
(b) Mice { Major.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
{ Minor.....	4	79	27	110	1
V. No. of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A.	10	146	58	214	16
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments..	12	172	59	243	16
VII. No. of notices served under Sec. IV of the Act :					
(a) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil
VIII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. IV of the Act	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Legal Proceedings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
X. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.....	3	17	41	61	5

Figures for 1st January—31st March were included in last year's report. From now on figures will be given for a complete calendar year.

UNSOUND FOOD
SURRENDERED TO PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

98	lbs. carcase meat
147 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. offal
527	lbs. bacon and ham
196 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs. sausage
153 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs. cooked meats
2	chickens
89	meat pies
18	savoury ducks
980	tins meat
4	jars minced chicken
49 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs. cheese
13 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs. butter
6 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. margarine
3 $\frac{1}{4}$	lbs. lard
30	jars sandwich paste
3	packets suet
35	lbs. cod fillets
17	cartons prawns
7	jars cockles
40	fish cakes
1,092	tins fish, fruit and vegetables
88	jars pickles and sauces
3	packets potato crisps
3	packets cereals
1	lb. rice and tapioca
85	jars preserves
27	lbs. flour
21	lbs. sugar
6	packets sponge mixture
23 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs. cake and biscuits
6	loaves bread
1	jelly
58	tins creamed rice and sago
121	tins milk
7	tins coffee
1	bottle coffee essence
6	tins chocolate drink
$\frac{1}{2}$	lb. tea
3	packets dates
24	chips strawberries
3	lbs. tomatoes

- 1 tin frozen eggs
- 144 slabs toffee
- 35 boxes chewing gum
- 36 packets chocolate cigarettes
- 6 lbs. sweets and chocolates

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT—ADULTERATED SAMPLES—ACTION TAKEN

Article Purchased	Number Analysed	Formal Samples	Informal Samples	Number Genuine	Number Adulterated	No. Genuine but below Standard	No. of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Remarks and Action Taken
Milk	148	12	136	137	3	—	19	Deficient in fat.	Formal sample genuine.
							133	Deficient in fat.	Formal sample genuine.
							158	Deficient in fat.	Formal sample genuine.
							8 —	Natural deficiency in non-fatty solids.	Referred to County Milk Production Officer.
Ice Cream	13	1	12	11	2	—	98 122	Deficient in fat. Deficient in fat	Formal sample No. 122 taken Manufacturer prosecuted. Fined £10.
Pork sausage	4	2	2	3	1	—	30	Slight deficiency in meat content.	No action taken
Bread	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	Bird dropping on crust. Mouse dropping on crust of loaf.	Manufacturer fined £5 Prosecution pending.
Beef sausage	8	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—
Double cream	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	5	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Margarine	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Lard	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Flour	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Baking powder	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ground almonds	4	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—
Ground nutmeg	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mixed spice	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Curry powder	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT—ADULTERATED SAMPLES—ACTION TAKEN.

continued.

Article Purchased	Number Analysed	Formal Samples	Informal Samples	Number Genuine	Number Adulterated	No. Genuine but below Standard	No. of Sample	Nature of Adulteration	Remarks and Action Taken
Gravy salt	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dried sage	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sage and onion stuffing	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tea	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cocoa	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee essence	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dried fruit	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Jam	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Mincemeat	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lemon curd	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit salad	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Glace cherries	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Almond flavouring	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolate cake mix	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Malt vinegar	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Sauce	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit chutney	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Luncheon meat	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken paste	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ham & Tongue paste	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Salmon spread	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Dressed crab	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fish cakes	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pease pudding	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sweets	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Cough mixture	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Children's aspirin	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Indigestion tablets	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Castor oil	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cascara sagrada	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Golden eye ointment	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit cordials	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Beer	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whisky	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Rum	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Gin	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Brandy	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sherry	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Port	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

Animals Slaughtered at Public Abattoir.

YEAR	BEASTS	SHEEP	CALVES	PIGS	TOTAL
1950	4,257	13,049	324	444	18,074
1951	4,026	10,521	329	931	15,807
1952	4,094	14,278	486	1,830	20,688
1953	3,754	15,651	387	4,594	24,386
1954	5,713	16,858	189	12,724	35,484
1955	3,812	10,783	281	11,573	26,449
1956	3,947	12,220	329	9,910	26,406
1957	4,764	13,995	353	11,116	30,228
1958	5,116	12,107	133	10,562	27,918
1959	4,631	18,718	53	10,998	34,400

YEAR	Total Cattle slaughtered (including calves)	Number affected with Tuber- culosis	Percentage affected	Total number of pigs slaughtered	Number affected with Tuber- culosis	Percentage affected
1950	4,581	1,239	27.05	444	21	4.73
1951	4,355	1,315	30.19	931	52	5.58
1952	4,580	1,126	24.58	1,830	138	7.54
1953	4,141	1,405	33.93	4,594	284	6.18
1954	5,902	982	16.63	12,724	339	2.66
1955	4,093	306	7.47	11,573	279	2.41
1956	4,276	347	8.11	9,910	190	1.91
1957	5,117	422	8.24	11,116	263	2.36
1958	5,249	456	8.68	10,562	229	2.16
1959	4,684	262	5.59	10,998	202	1.83

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	4,181	450	53	18,718	10,998	—
No. inspected	4,181	450	53	18,718	10,998	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBER- CULOSIS & CYSTICERCI: Whole carcasses condemned	3	8	1	102	5	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,559	79	10	753	677	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	37.36	19.33	20.75	4.56	6.20	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole carcasses condemned	3	2	—	—	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	242	15	—	—	200	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis.	5.91	3.77	—	—	1.83	—
CYSTICERCOSIS: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Prosecutions (5)
Factories without mechanical power.....	109	28	4	—
Factories with mechanical power.....	217	70	5	—
Other Premises under the Act, including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers' premises	19	14	—	—
TOTAL.....	345	112	9	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of Defects				No. of cases in respect of which prose- cutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	7	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	2	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . . .	13	7	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	—	2	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	24	13	—	6	—

COUNTY BOROUGH OF
WEST HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL
MEDICAL OFFICER

1959

CONTENTS

PREFACE	
STAFF	I
GENERAL STATISTICS	II
ROUTINE INSPECTIONS	III
WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSING STAFF	IV
ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT	V
MINOR AILMENTS	VI
ULTRA VIOLET RAY TREATMENT	VII
IMMUNISATION	VIII
VISUAL DEFECTS	IX
EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS	X
SPEECH THERAPY	XI
CHILD GUIDANCE	XII
REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER	XIII
SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE	XIV
HANDICAPPED PUPILS	XV
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	XVI
NURSERY SCHOOLS	XVII
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	XVIII
MORTALITY IN CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE	XIX
EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOLCHILDREN	XX
MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS AND ENTRANTS TO TRAINING COLLEGES	XXI
TABLES	XXII

County Borough of



West Hartlepool

Principal School Medical Officer's Report

For the Year 1959

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
WEST HARTLEPOOL.

April, 1960.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my second Annual Report as Principal School Medical Officer for the year 1959.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

Following upon a report to the Committee in the early part of 1959 regarding the present arrangements for medical inspections in schools, it was agreed by the Special Services Sub-committee that additional clerical assistance should be provided at the School Clinic in order that all school medical records could be kept there and the headteachers relieved of a great deal of clerical work in connection with school medical inspections. Since the medical inspection cards had previously been kept at school, it was necessary to keep additional records in the School Clinic, and consequently much clerical work was done by the School Nurses which involved unnecessary duplication of records. Under the new arrangements, all medical records (except the subsidiary card, Form 10(b)(M) are kept at the Central Clinic, together with the infant record cards and vaccination and immunisation records supplied by the Health Department. Arrangements for medical inspections and listing of children to be examined are henceforth to be carried out at the School Clinic. A start was made with the Infant Schools in the Autumn term of 1959 and it is hoped to complete the transfer of records by the Summer of this year.

The end of August saw the retirement of Nurse E. Witten, Senior School Nurse, who had been in the School Health Service since October, 1935, and consequent upon her resignation due to her marriage, the Health and Education Committees approved the merging of the Health Visiting and School Nursing Services to provide a comprehensive child welfare service. It was agreed that the existing School Nurses, if they so desired, and if accepted by a Training School, should be allowed to undertake a course leading to the Health Visitor's Certificate, and Miss O. Mavin commenced training in Durham in October, 1959.

The desirability of merging the Health Visiting and School Nursing Services is, of course, commended in the Ministry of Health Circular 26/59 and Ministry of Education Circular 12/59. In this Authority, an endeavour has been made to define the Health Visitor's district as corresponding to the catchment area of one or more infant schools. In this way the visiting of expectant mothers and children under five, the medical inspection of schoolchildren, and follow-up of defects, are carried out by the same Nurse in the same area. Special problems, however, are created by the senior schools, many of which have catchment areas greater than one Health Visitor's district, certain denominational schools, which also have a wider catchment area, and the special schools. These will in future be covered for school health purposes by the three School Nurses (one part-time) without the Health Visitor's Certificate. During the latter part of the year when these arrangements were in operation, close contact was made between the Health Visitors and teachers in the Junior and Infant Schools, regular weekly visits being paid by the Health Visitor/School Nurse which have afforded greater opportunity for increasing the work of health education in the schools.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Medical inspections show a slight drop on the 1958 figures. This is due to the increased amount of poliomyelitis vaccination carried out by the School Medical Officers. It is gratifying to note, however, that the percentage of children examined and found to have defects requiring treatment showed a drop from 21.94% to 13.83%.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

1958 was a year with a low incidence of infectious disease. 1959 showed a high measles incidence and there was a slight increase in the amount of scarlet fever, which, however, was mainly of a mild type. There were no cases of diphtheria and only one case of paralytic poliomyelitis in a child who had not had poliomyelitis vaccination. The child had a history of convulsions in infancy and the mother had been advised against her having whooping cough immunisation. It was probably on this account that the child was not immunised against poliomyelitis when other members of the family had been done.

IMMUNISATION.

As has already been stated, there was a considerable increase in the volume of work done in the field of prophylactic immunisation, the number of children immunised with B.C.G. against tuberculosis in their fourteenth year having risen from 575 to 822.

There was also a substantial increase in the number of children immunised against poliomyelitis, attention was concentrated particularly on children approaching school-leaving age, and as a result of an intensive campaign in the early summer, a total of 1,958 children received two injections. The third or re-inforcing doses were also given and 4,325 children of school age received a third injection.

VISUAL DEFECTS.

During 1959 there was a considerable increase in the volume of work done in the examination and treatment of visual defects in children, the total number seen having risen from 262 in 1958 to 780 in 1959. This is due to the fact that owing to the lack of an Ophthalmic Specialist for a considerable part of 1958, there was a large number of cases requiring attention outstanding. Thanks to the enthusiastic co-operation of Mr. Sharp, much leeway has been made up. Since October, 1959, it has been possible to run the Ophthalmic Clinic in the same building where the Orthoptist has been carrying out her work in the treatment of strabismus. This has proved a great benefit, not only to the Ophthalmic Surgeon and to the Orthoptist but also to the children and their parents.

OTHER SPECIALIST TREATMENT.

We have continued during 1959 to take advantage of the good offices of the Child Guidance Clinic at Sunderland for the treatment of psychological and emotional disturbances in children. Attendances are roughly the same as in 1958, and it is certain that only the more severe cases are dealt with owing to the difficulties of travelling which this treatment involves.

We were also without a Speech Therapist during the year and it was necessary to send 28 children for speech therapy to the Clinic at Stockton.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Considerable improvement was effected during the year in equipping the two dental surgeries at the Central Clinic, and there has been an increase in the amount of orthodontic work done, the number of cases commenced having risen from 65 in 1958 to 80 in 1959.

Improvements in dental hygiene are certain to be reflected in better health and it was with this aim in view that a number of dental educational films were shown in schools during the year. It is hoped in future years to increase this volume of educational work so that by improved dental hygiene, coupled with our existing favourable position in regard to the fluorine content of the town's water supply, we should look forward to an even higher proportion of dentally fit adults.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

The position regarding Thornhill Special School is mentioned in the general body of this report. The number of children in attendance at the end of the year was slightly down and as has been commented upon previously, this is largely due to the improvements in living standards and improved medical care in infancy.

With regard to Claremont School, the waiting list rose from 22 to 24. It is becoming quite clear that the size of Claremont School is quite inadequate to cope with the numbers of educationally sub-normal children requiring admission there. The Development Plan envisages a school of 100 places, but it seems clear that to cope with present and future needs, 120 places will be required.

A total of seven children were reported to the local Health Authority under Section 57(3) of the Education Act, 1944, as incapable of receiving education at school, and five under 15 were subsequently admitted to the junior training centre maintained by the Health Committee in Brenda Road. As soon as a child is found to be ineducable it is highly desirable that he should be admitted forthwith to a training centre. In this way the child is saved the frustrating experience of attending a school at which he or she is deriving no benefit, or alternatively, of being kept at home to the anxiety and even distress of the parents. We are indeed fortunate that this happy situation exists in West Hartlepool, but we cannot be so content regarding the larger number of educationally sub-normal children who cannot be found places in a special day school, and cannot therefore be given education suitable to their age, ability and aptitude. There is, in addition, the very serious problem of the child not so seriously limited in ability as to require admission to a day special school, but yet so significantly educationally retarded as to constitute a problem in the ordinary school.

I should like to take this opportunity of impressing upon the Committee that the problem of providing for the needs of the educationally sub-normal child in West Hartlepool is assuming serious proportions. Owing to the limited number of places at Claremont and the length of the waiting list, it is clear that many children now ascertained as educationally sub-normal cannot expect to get special educational treatment, which is so desirable in their interests. Consequently, they have to be retained in the ordinary school to the detriment of others. For the even larger number of children who show less severe degrees of educational retardation there is no special provision at all. It has been reliably estimated that the number of educationally sub-normal children in the school population is about 10%, and therefore it will be seen that the problem facing the Authority is a very large one indeed. The education of the backward child is as much a subject worthy of academic study as is the education of his brighter brother or sister. Mere segregation and a "sympathetic teacher" are not enough. It is necessary to encourage staff to undertake specialised training in this field and it is desirable

also that they should have appropriate guidance from specialised staff skilled in the techniques of educational psychology. In an era of increasing educational opportunity it should be remembered that for a considerable number of the school population such opportunities are not available, and in a world which is becoming increasingly complex in character, the outlook for the inadequately tutored dull child is poor indeed.

It is an undoubted fact that this lack of appropriate education, suited to their abilities, is an underlying factor in many children brought before the Courts on account of delinquent behaviour.

STAFF.

As has been mentioned previously, Nurse E. Witten, Senior School Nurse, resigned her appointment on marriage, and has since gone to live at Durham. She carries with her the best wishes of the staff of the School Health Service and has earned the best thanks of the Committee for her work for the benefit of West Hartlepool school children over many difficult years.

Once again I am indebted for the assistance of the Chief Education Officer and the administrative staff of his Department, and my best thanks are due to the members and staff of the School Health Service for their energetic efforts throughout the year. I would also like to thank the Headteachers for their readily-offered co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee I am deeply grateful for their continuing interest and support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. MILLIGAN,

Principal School Medical Officer.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :

H. C. MILLIGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

S. W. W. TERRY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers :

JEAN F. FARQUHAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JANET BISSET, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

CLAUD J. SHARP, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.

Orthoptist :

VIVIEN NELSON, D.B.O.

Aural Specialist :

L. V. ARUNDEL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.(Ed.), L.R.F.P.S.(Glas.)

School Dental Officers :

MARGARET I. MANLEY, L.D.S. (Leeds), Principal School Dental Officer

A. G. WILDGOOSE, L.D.S. (Glasgow)

Health Visitor/School Nurses :

MISS M. A. FIELDS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Superintendent)
 MRS. M. DOUGLAS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MRS. D. USHER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MISS A. M. NORTHEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MISS C. M. NIXON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MRS. M. A. BODDY, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MISS A. I. SMEATHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MISS P. McCLELLAND, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 MISS E. HONOUR, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Obtained 26.9.1959)
 MISS A.P. PHILLIP, S.R.N., S.C.M., Trainee Health Visitor.
 (Commenced 1.9.1959)

School Nurses :

MISS E. WITTEN, S.R.N., S.R.C.N. (Senior School Nurse)
 (Resigned 16.8.1959)
 MISS O. MAVIN, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Trainee Health Visitor).
 MISS I. S. HIND, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 MISS M. P. LOWRY, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 MRS. D. L. HARBRON, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Part-time—6/11ths.)

The Authority also employ a woman in connection with the cleansing of children.

II. GENERAL STATISTICS.

The school population increased from 13,708 in January, 1959, to 13,778 in January, 1960. The number of pupils on the register in January, 1960, is shown in the following table :—

General Statistics.

Population of County Borough	..	..	..	..	75,400
Primary Schools or Departments, January, 1960—					
	County			24	
	Voluntary			9	33
Children on registers of Primary Schools, January, 1960—					
	County			6,569	
	Voluntary			2,335	8,904
Secondary Schools or Departments, January, 1960—					
	County			11	
	Voluntary			2	13
Children on registers of Secondary Schools, January, 1960—					
	County			4,312	
	Voluntary			308	4,620
Nursery Schools, January, 1960	..	..	..	..	2
Children on registers of Nursery Schools, January, 1960					83
Day Special Schools, January, 1960	..			County	2
Children on registers of Day Special Schools, January, 1960..	..	..	..	..	171

III. ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

(a) Medical.

The annual inspections of schoolchildren were carried out in accordance with the provisions of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1959, in which failing alternative arrangements for medical supervision a minimum of three inspections is prescribed during the period of school life. It is left to the Authority's discretion when to arrange these and also whether additional inspections are required. Infant school entrants are examined during their first year at school, junior pupils in their last year at junior school and senior pupils at 14 years of age during their last year at secondary modern school. At the Grammar School for Boys and High School for Girls all school-leavers between the ages of 16-19 years are examined.

No. of Periodic Medical Inspection Sessions	214
No. of children examined at Periodic Medical Inspections	4,086
No. of children examined at Special Inspections ..	243
No. of children examined at Re-inspections	393

Percentage of children examined at Periodic Medical

Inspections found to have defects requiring treatment was 13.83%

Comparative figures for earlier years are—

1952	17.46%
1953	13.36%
1954	13.10%
1955	14.87%
1956	16.46%
1957	18.14%
1958	21.94%

Details of defects found are given in Table IV.

The purpose of the medical inspections is two-fold. First, they permit the detection of early and established defects, and enable advice to be given as to the most suitable measures to remedy them. Secondly, and of at least equal importance, the presence of the parent makes it possible to inculcate ideals of health maintenance. In this respect it is interesting to note the percentage of parents who attended during 1957, 1958 and 1959.

	1957	1958	1959
Entrants	95.42%	94.12%	93.82%
Others	68.49%	80.86%	79.04%
School-leavers	20.27%	16.65%	10.80%

A highly gratifying response except in the third age group. It is, however, a common experience that many of the older children prefer not to be accompanied by the parent.

(b) Dental.

Each school child has a routine dental inspection at school once a year.

Further details are given in Table XIII.

(c) Cleanliness.

Inspections were carried out by the School Nurses, who paid approximately three visits to each school during the year.

The number of children found to be verminous was 1,370.

The comparative figures for earlier years are—

1952	..	..	..	..	706
1953	..	..	..	..	868
1954	..	..	..	..	662
1955	..	..	..	..	563
1956	..	..	..	..	705
1957	..	..	..	..	776
1958	..	..	..	..	783

GENERAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED.

Since 1st January, 1956, the physical condition of the children has been classified as grades S (satisfactory) and U (unsatisfactory), which replaces the previous classification system of A, B and C. Under the classification U are placed those children whose physical condition apart from specific defects, e.g. of sight or hearing, is such that they should be kept under observation or treatment.

The figures for 1959 are as follows—

Age Groups Inspected (by year of birth)	Number of Pupils Inspected	Physical Conditions of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1955 and later	117	112	95.73	5	4.27
1954	1,046	1,038	99.24	8	.76
1953	302	298	98.68	4	1.32
1952	23	20	86.96	3	13.04
1951	17	17	100	—	—
1950	9	9	100	—	—
1949	935	935	100	—	—
1948	966	958	99.17	8	.83
1947	237	235	99.16	2	.84
1946	14	14	100	—	—
1945	20	20	100	—	—
1944 and earlier	400	398	99.5	2	.5
Total ..	4,086	4,054	99.22	32	.78

IV. WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSING STAFF.

The Education Authority employs nine Health Visitor/School Nurses and three School Nurses (one part-time) in the School Health Service. The work of these nurses includes attendance at school medical inspections, cleanliness inspections, special school visits including infectious disease surveys and follow-up visits to the homes of children found at medical inspections to be suffering from defects. Details of their work are set out below :

(a) Visits to the Homes of Schoolchildren :—

<i>Reason for Visit</i>				<i>No. of Visits</i>	
				1958	1959
Defective and Dirty Clothing	..	..	..	30	43
Verminous Children	..	..	..	36	236
Scabies	..	..	..	2	4
Impetigo	..	..	..	34	36
Ringworm	..	..	..	3	—
Other Skin Diseases	..	..	..	11	30
Eye Diseases and Defects	..	..	..	544	371
Ear, Nose and Throat	..	..	..	145	213
Dental Defects	..	..	..	11	5
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	291	977
Other Medical Defects	..	..	..	205	208
Surgical Defects	..	..	..	154	120
Special Enquiries	..	..	..	699	476
Other visits and re-visits	..	..	..	729	680
Total visits to Homes				2,894	3,399

(b) Visits to Schools :—

Verminous Surveys	..	..	..	..	174	198
Infectious Disease Surveys		..	..	..	1	1
School Medical Inspections		..	..	..	294	211
Other visits	..	..	..	..	562	441
Total visits to Schools	..				1,031	851

(c) Attendances at Clinics :—

	1958	1959
Camp	30	28
Minor Ailments	287	298
Sun-ray	82	77
Aural Clinic	43	38
Ophthalmic Clinic	49	91
Immunisation Clinic	19	5
Poliomyelitis & B.C.G. Vaccination Clinic ..	114	81
Golden Flatts County Primary School	76	68
Rossmere County Primary School	78	84
Owton Manor County Primary School	34	39
Thornhill Special School	85	56
Other	99	71
Total attendances at Clinics ..	<u>996</u>	<u>936</u>
No. of individual children inspected during verminous surveys	12,272	19,933
No. of Notices issued for verminous heads	1,196	1,706
No. of Notices issued for dirty and untidy clothing	31	7

V. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

Minor Ailments ..	Medical Officer Sessions. Monday a.m.
Minor Ailments ..	Treatment Sessions daily except Wednesday
Sun-ray	Saturday a.m. and Wednesday at 3 p.m.
Immunisation ..	Wednesday a.m.
Dental Clinics ..	Daily
Orthoptic	Thursday and Friday
Ophthalmic	Thursday and Friday p.m.
Aural	Tuesday p.m.

With the exception of the Ophthalmic and Orthoptic Clinics, the above sessions are all held at the School Clinic, 49/51 Park Road, West Hartlepool. Tel. No. Hartlepool 2339. During the year orthoptic treatment has been given on four sessions per week at Stranton House.

Medical Officer's Special Sessions for the examination of Physically Handicapped and Educationally Sub-normal children are held as required.

VI. MINOR AILMENTS.

The treatment of Minor Ailments is carried out at the School Clinic, Park Road, and also at Clinics at Golden Flatts County Primary School, Owton Manor County Primary School, Rossmere County Primary School and Thornhill Special School.

Details of Complaints Treated.

Skin Diseases—	1958	1959
Impetigo	41	49
Scabies	10	6
Ringworm—Scalp	—	1
Body	5	4
Other Skin Diseases	106	168
Eye Diseases—		
Conjunctivitis	26	33
Blepharitis	15	16
Hordeolum	43	38
Keratitis	—	2
Other Eye Diseases	41	45
Ulcer	—	2
Ear Diseases—		
Otorrhoea	105	105
Cerumen	18	16
Other Ear Diseases	77	105
Nose Complaints	140	196
Uncleanliness—		
Verminous Heads	210	293
Body	1	—
Dirty Body	7	7
Miscellaneous Cases—		
Septic Sores and Abrasions	928	958
Accidents (Minor)	410	423
Enlarged Glands	2	4
Abscesses and Boils	91	45
Sore Throats	265	116
Chilblains	12	2
Warts	325	277
Debility	40	36
Infection, etc.	7	—
Other Ailments	305	121
Postures	24	19
	<hr/> 3,254 <hr/>	<hr/> 3,087 <hr/>
No. of individual children attended Clinics ..	3,458	3,085
No. of attendances made	8,894	8,354

VII. ULTRA VIOLET RAY TREATMENT.

Ultra Violet Ray treatment sessions are held at the School Clinic and also at Thornhill Open-Air School.

Children are recommended for treatment by the School Medical Officers, in the main on account of catarrhal conditions, bronchitis, asthma, anæmia, sub-normal nutrition or general debility.

No. of children treated at School Clinic during 1959	..	70
No. of children treated at Thornhill Open-Air School during 1959	.. .. .	13
		<hr/>
Total	..	83
		<hr/> <hr/>

VIII. IMMUNISATION.

(a) Diphtheria.

Reinforcing and primary immunisations were carried out at weekly sessions held on Wednesday mornings at the School Clinic, Park Road.

During the year 80 primary and 45 reinforcing injections were given.

(b) Poliomyelitis.

The vaccination of schoolchildren against poliomyelitis continued during the year, although the emphasis was on the vaccination of children approaching school-leaving age. For the first time, arrangements were made for mass vaccination in schools which were visited by a team consisting of a Medical Officer, two nurses and a clerk. As a result of this scheme a total of 1,958 children received two injections of the vaccine.

Third or reinforcing doses of vaccine were given at sessions held at the School Clinic, Park Road and by family doctors and during the year a total of 4,325 children of school age received a third injection.

The tables which follow show in detail the age group distribution of children receiving injections of vaccine and the division of work between local authority staff and general practitioners.

Second Injections

VACCINATED BY	YEAR OF BIRTH											Total
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
Local Authority Staff	375	358	400	311	193	99	174	91	109	202	223	2,535
General Practitioners	5	9	12	21	14	14	17	19	17	30	29	187
Total 1959	380	367	412	332	207	113	191	110	126	232	252	2,722
Total 1958	573	538	598	386	339	313	310	555	525	282	245	4,664
Total 1957	—	—	—	530	537	428	397	154	115	120	61	2,342
Total 1956	—	—	—	56	71	48	45	39	18	19	11	307

Third Injections

VACCINATED BY	YEAR OF BIRTH											Total
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
Local Authority Staff	158	211	223	565	482	468	389	234	287	209	159	3,385
General Practitioners . .	67	91	96	112	68	77	77	92	90	88	82	940
Total 1959	225	302	319	677	550	545	466	326	377	297	241	4,325
Total 1958	175	117	224	136	155	121	115	179	164	48	26	1,460

(c) Tuberculosis.

During the year B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was offered to boys and girls who were in their fourteenth year. Children who accepted vaccination were given a tuberculin test and those found to be negative and therefore more susceptible to tuberculosis were offered vaccination immediately. The response and results are shown in the accompanying table.

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. to whom Testing was offered	661	690	1,351
Refused	144	238	382
Accepted	517	452	969
Absent and therefore not tested ..	10	9	19
TESTED	507	443	950
Absent and therefore not read ..	1	2	3
READ	506	441	947
Tuberculin POSITIVE	66	59	125
Tuberculin Negative and there- fore VACCINATED	440	382	822
Total No. POSITIVE	66	59	125
Total No. NEGATIVE and VACCINATED	440	382	822

IX. VISUAL DEFECTS.

Mr. C. Sharp was appointed Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon on 12th June, 1958, and conducted at least two sessions each week at the School Clinic, Park Road, until 1st October, 1959 when the Clinic was transferred to Stranton House.

Total No. of attendances	1,608
No. of new cases seen	780
No. of prescriptions issued	943
No. referred for operative treatment ..	21

The percentage of pupils found to require treatment for defective vision (excluding squint) at periodic medical inspections during the past five years was as follows :—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Entrants	—	—	2.46%	2.77%	1.09%
Others	10.95%	10.52%	11.83%	10.10%	8.38%
Leavers	13.97%	12.41%	11.51%	15.38%	8.75%

The vision-testing of 5-year-old school entrants commenced in 1957.

Squint.

Year	Requiring treatment for Squint	Requiring Observation only	Total	Percentage with Squint of those seen at Periodic Medical Inspections
1948	11	—	11	0.43
1949	36	9	45	1.40
1950	16	3	19	0.72
1951	35	—	35	1.10
1952	22	—	22	0.59
1953	35	3	38	1.01
1954	30	4	34	1.08
1955	25	4	29	0.90
1956	23	3	26	0.83
1957	37	1	38	1.31
1958	65	12	77	1.28
1959	23	8	31	.56

Orthoptic Treatment.

During 1959, orthoptic treatment has been available at Stranton House on four sessions per week and 301 new cases have been seen and a total of 1,576 attendances made.

Since 1st October, 1959, the Ophthalmic Surgeon and the Orthoptist have held joint clinics at Stranton House on at least two sessions per week.

X. EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

Mr. Arundel, Consultant Surgeon, conducted 42 Aural Clinic sessions during the year at the School Clinic.

Details of Treatment Provided.

	1958	1959
Operative Treatment—		
For disease of the ear	32	22
For adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ..	64	87
For other nose and throat conditions ..	71	63
	<u>167</u>	<u>172</u>
Other forms of treatment—		
Nose complaints	140	196
Otorrhoea	105	105
Cerumen	18	16
Other ear diseases	77	105
Sore throats	265	116
	<u>605</u>	<u>538</u>

Tonsillectomy.

Each Local Education Authority was requested by the Principal Medical Officer of the Ministry of Education to note the percentage of children seen at routine school Medical Inspections who had had their tonsils removed.

Of 4,200 children inspected, 451 (9.36%) were found to have undergone tonsillectomy. Further details are given in Table XIV.

XI. SPEECH THERAPY.

Despite advertisements, the post of Speech Therapist to the West Hartlepool Education Committee has remained unfilled. It therefore continues to be necessary to refer cases for speech therapy to the Speech Therapist at The Speech Therapy Clinic at Stockton-on-Tees.

During the year 28 children from West Hartlepool attended the for treatment.

Lack of staff has seriously handicapped the expansion of work Clinic in this field.

XII. CHILD GUIDANCE.

Children requiring Child Guidance treatment have received this through the good offices of the Sunderland Education Committee's Child Guidance Centre. 24 West Hartlepool children attended the clinic and made a total of 133 attendances.

XIII. REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

Miss M. I. Manley, Principal School Dental Officer, reports

The overall position varies very little from year to year.

Sepsis in the permanent teeth is now rarely encountered, and most school-leavers enter adult life equipped with serviceable chewing apparatus. It is a cause for regret that many do not see the necessity of keeping their mouths in good order when emancipated from the yearly inspection.

The up-to-date equipment installed during the year has added a "New Look" to the Department, and is a valuable replacement.

The Orthodontic service shows good results, and few children fail to keep their appointments once their interest is secured.

One session weekly is reserved for expectant and nursing mothers, and under-fives are treated on request.

A series of Dental Education Films was shown to as many schools as time permitted, but I have not yet seen any startling evidence that the lessons portrayed have been put into practice daily. I am afraid that they were mainly esteemed for their entertainment value!

It is envisaged that a further series of films advising on diet and dental hygiene may be shown to young mothers of pre-school children at Welfare Centres, Parent-Teacher Associations and similar gatherings.

If this is of any help in tackling the evil of dental caries at source, instead of repairing its ravages later, it will be well worthwhile.

Mothers, to whom I speak on the vexed subject of a mixed diet, still need advice and encouragement to dissuade them from substituting a series of "snacks" (rich in carbohydrate) for a balanced meal, especially if the child shows any dislike of the latter.

In conclusion, cordial relations with Heads and Staffs of Schools, Education Office and Clinic are one of the pleasures which make our burden lighter, and for this I thank them.

XIV. SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE.

No. of Children having School Meals and Milk—January, 1960.

No. of children on School Rolls ..	13,778
No. of children having Dinners ..	3,500 (25.40%)
No. of children having Free Dinners ..	1,341 (9.73%)
No. of children paying for Dinners ..	2,159 (15.67%)
No. of children having School Milk ..	11,170 (81.07%)

	No. on Roll	No. of Pupils having Meals			No. of Pupils having Milk
		Free	Paid	Total	
Nursery	83	2	59	61	56
Primary	8,904	865	1,175	2,040	7,721
Secndy. Modern, Grammar & Tech.	4,620	414	853	1,267	3,262
Special Schools ..	171	60	72	132	131
	13,778	1,341	2,159	3,500	11,170

All children having milk received one-third pint bottle per day, except at Thornhill Open-Air School where two-third pint bottles were supplied to each child.

The children at the two Nursery Schools had an extra third-pint bottle of milk per day, which was paid for by the parents.

XV. HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The Education Authority is responsible for the ascertainment of all Handicapped Children over the age of two years who require special educational treatment. The early ascertainment of handicapped pupils is one of the most important functions of the School Health Service.

As a general principle, handicapped children attend ordinary schools provided they are able to profit by the education offered, and that they do not disturb other children by their presence.

A few are ascertained in early infancy and referred to the School Health Service when they reach the age of two years. Some are ascertained at the first periodic medical inspection, others are referred by Headteachers shortly after admission to school, and a number of pupils are brought to notice after illness or prolonged hospital treatment.

Details regarding the categories of handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment are contained in the "Handicapped Pupils and Special Schools Regulations, 1959" as follows :—

(a) Blind Pupils.

No. of blind pupils ascertained during the year ..	1
No. of blind pupils admitted to Special School during the year	0
Total No. of blind pupils in Special Schools for the Blind, as at 31.12.59	4

(b) Partially Sighted Pupils.

No. of partially sighted pupils ascertained during the year	0
No. of partially sighted pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year.. .. .	0
Total No. of partially sighted pupils in Special Schools for partially sighted children as at 31.12.59	4

(c) Deaf Pupils.

No. of deaf pupils ascertained during the year ..	1
No. of deaf pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year	0
Total No. of pupils in Special Schools for the Deaf as at 31.12.59	11

(d) Partially Deaf Pupils.

No. of partially deaf pupils ascertained during the year	3
No. of partially deaf pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year	1
Total No. of pupils in Special Schools for partially deaf children as at 31.12.59	4

(e) Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils.

There are several causes of backwardness at school and they include poor mental ability, defective hearing, defective vision, repeated and long absences through illness and frequent changes of school. Children who fail to make satisfactory educational progress at school are referred to the School Medical Officer for a full medical examination and intelligence testing. During the year 95 children were examined in this respect, of which 74 were new cases and 21 were returned cases.

During the last two years there has been a welcome awareness of the need to investigate the child who has not been able to keep up with his contemporaries. In the ten-year period 1948-57 an average of 43 pupils were examined annually by the School Medical Officer ; by contrast during 1958 and 1959, 114 and 95 pupils respectively were tested. The latter figure might well have been greater had not it been necessary to devote some of the time of the School Medical Staff to poliomyelitis vaccination campaign.

The Authority maintains Claremont School, which is a Day School for educationally sub-normal pupils. If, however, educational sub-normality is accompanied by evidence of maladjustment or very bad home conditions, such children may be admitted to a Residential Special School.

No. of Educationally Sub-normal Children recommended for Special School during the year ..	22
No. of Educationally Sub-normal Children admitted to Special Schools	16
No. of children on register at Claremont Special Day School at 31.12.59	71
Total No. of children in Residential Special Schools for Educationally Sub-normal Children as at 31.12.59	12

(f) Epileptic Pupils.

No. of epileptic pupils ascertained during the year..	0
No. of epileptic pupils admitted to Special Schools during the year	0
Total No. of epileptic pupils in Special Schools for epileptic pupils as at 31.12.59	3

(g) Maladjusted Pupils.

No. of maladjusted pupils ascertained during the year	0
No. of maladjusted pupils admitted to Special Schools, etc. for maladjusted children during the year	2
Total No. of maladjusted pupils in Special Schools, Hostels, etc. as at 31.12.59	2

(h) Physically Handicapped Pupils.

After ascertainment physically handicapped pupils are admitted to Thornhill Open-Air School unless it is considered that they require education in a Special Residential School.

No. of physically handicapped pupils ascertained during the year	5
No. of physically handicapped pupils admitted to Thornhill Special School during the year ..	4
Total No. of Physically Handicapped Pupils on register at Thornhill Special School, as at 31.12.59	22
Total No. of Physically Handicapped Pupils in Residential Special Schools for Physically Handicapped Pupils as at 31.12.59	2

(i) Pupils Suffering from Speech Defects.

No. of pupils with speech defects ascertained during the year	20
No. of pupils with speech defects admitted to Special Schools during the year	0
Total No. of children with speech defects in Special Schools as at 31.12.59	0

(j) Delicate Pupils.

After ascertainment Delicate Pupils are admitted to Thornhill Open-Air School, unless it is considered that they require education in a Special Residential School.

No. of delicate pupils ascertained during the year..	25
No. of delicate pupils admitted to Thornhill Open-Air School during the year	24
Total No. of delicate pupils on register at Thornhill Open-Air School, as at 31.12.59	73

XVI. SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

The Authority maintains two special schools :—

Thornhill Open-Air School.

This special school caters for the educational needs of the delicate and the physically-handicapped pupils. There are six classes and an excellent “rest pavilion” which can also be used for assembly and similar activities. Towards the end of the year two desirable additions were completed—the craft room for metal and woodwork and the domestic science room for cookery and laundry classes. The school has its own kitchen and large dining hall.

The general health of the pupils, apart from the specific disabilities of the individual child, was good during the year.

The expansion of the school activities contrasts with the decrease in the number of pupils. This decrease is a reflection of a national trend. The drop is most marked in the “delicate” category ; but over the years the number of the physically-handicapped has remained fairly constant (Fig. 1). There is not the same demand for the special educational treatment of the delicate child as before. The better nutrition available is one factor. The old “weeney, weedy and weaky” is happily a very rare sight today. Those that we do see are not so much the product of malnutrition but of hereditary constitutional inferiority—those that make up one end of a Gaussian curve or frequency distribution, just as their more fortunate opposites are at the other end. Another factor that plays a part in the steady decline of the “delicate” population is the current philosophy that seeks to maintain every child in the ordinary stream of (educational and school) life as long as it is practical and advantageous to the particular child. Ideally the decline should continue until the category of the “delicate” child ceases to exist. But in practice the drop will be arrested, for there will always be some post-operative and convalescent child who will need a period in more sheltered surroundings, such as are available in Thornhill. And a glance at the diagram (Fig. 2) of the distribution by year of admission, shows that a high proportion of the pupils were admitted during the last two years, and that the children of primary school age outnumber by almost 2 to 1 those over eleven years of age. (Fig 3).

The roll at the end of year was as follows :—

Delicate Pupils	.. .. .	73
Physically-handicapped Pupils	..	22
Epileptic Pupils	.. .. .	3
		—
Total	..	98
		==

Claremont Special School for E.S.N. Pupils.

At Claremont, the educationally-sub-normal pupil is offered a curriculum adapted to his need at a speed geared to his limited ability. The range of intellectual ability in terms of Intelligence Quotient (I.Q.) is wide for such a small school population, as shown in the histogram (Fig. 4), as is also the age distribution of the 71 pupils (Fig. 5). The preponderance in the school of boys over girls is not dissimilar to the national trend ; but it is doubtful if this really reflects the distribution of intelligence in the general population. Boys are more readily referred for assessment and placement in a special school than girls, mainly because they are more prone to behaviour problems. It is, however, significant that though the average I.Q. of the boys and girls attending Claremont are equal yet the scatter is wider for the boys, with not a few over the 70 level (20 boys compared to 6 girls).

The histograms graphically represent the distribution by age (Fig. 5) and year of admission (Fig. 6).

During the year 14 children were admitted to the school, while 5 pupils (3 boys and 2 girls) left school on reaching the age of 16 years. Two boys were transferred to residential special schools, and 1 boy and 2 girls were notified to the Local Health Authority as “being incapable of receiving education at school.”

At the end of the year 24 pupils (21 boys and 3 girls) were on the waiting list for placement in Claremont.

XVII. NURSERY SCHOOLS.

The two Nursery Schools, Grantully and Ward Jackson provide 83 places for children aged 3-5 years. There are long waiting lists.

The schools are visited regularly by a medical officer, who reports that the health of the children was satisfactory, with no case of serious illness or accident.

XVIII. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

A. No. of children suffering from notifiable infectious diseases reported to School Clinic as excluded from School :—

	1958	1959
Diphtheria	—	—
Measles	38	537
Scarlet Fever	37	58
Whooping Cough	9	17
Poliomyelitis	—	1
Scarletina	3	15

B. No. of children suffering from non-notifiable diseases reported to School Clinic during year :—

	1958	1959
Chicken Pox	258	109
Mumps	5	253
German Measles	16	11
Impetigo, etc.	10	11
Others (Influenza, Jaundice, etc.)	26	32

XIX. MORTALITY IN CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.

Two schoolchildren died during the year.

Age	Sex		Cause of Death
5	M	1	(a) Heart Failure due to acute rheumatic carditis
11	M	1	(a) Myocarditis (b) Gastro Enteritis

XX. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Before, or within 14 days from the date when a child begins employment, he must be medically examined to ensure that the employment will not be prejudicial to his health or physical development, and that it will not render him unfit to obtain proper benefit from his education. Re-examination every six months is required during the course of employment.

No. of children examined and passed	68
No. of children examined and refused	0
Certificates	68

13 children were examined under The Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, in connection with employment of children in entertainment, during 1959.

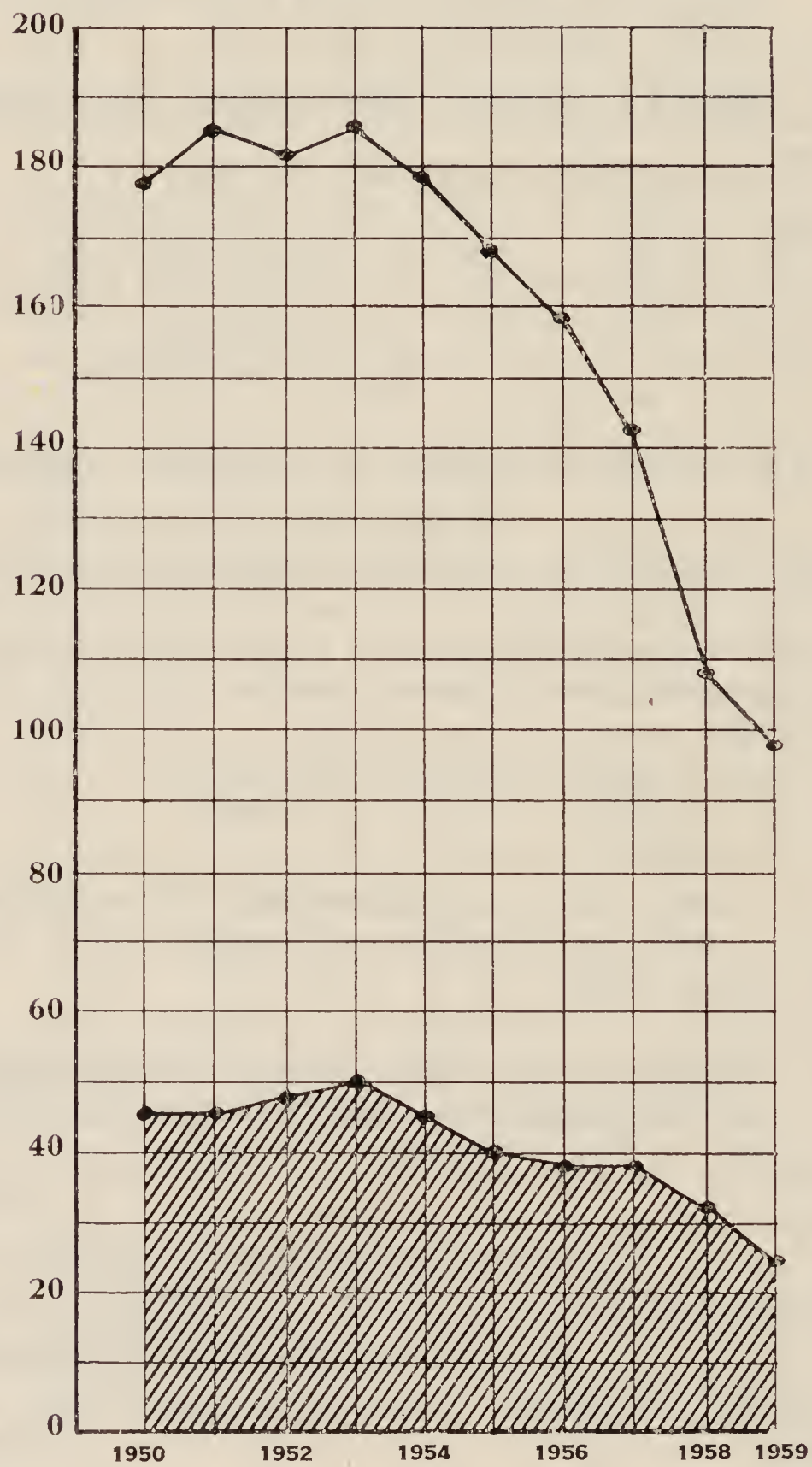
XXI. MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS AND ENTRANTS TO TRAINING COLLEGES.

Ministry of Education Circular 249, 1952, requires that all candidates applying for admission to training colleges and university departments of education, and all entrants to the teaching professions, be medically examined. An X-ray examination of the chest is also compulsory for those entering the teaching profession. During the year the following examinations were made in accordance with the provisions of the above circular and X-ray examinations were arranged where necessary.

Entrants to Training Colleges and University	
Departments of Education	28
Teachers entering service of Authority	58

THORNHILL OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

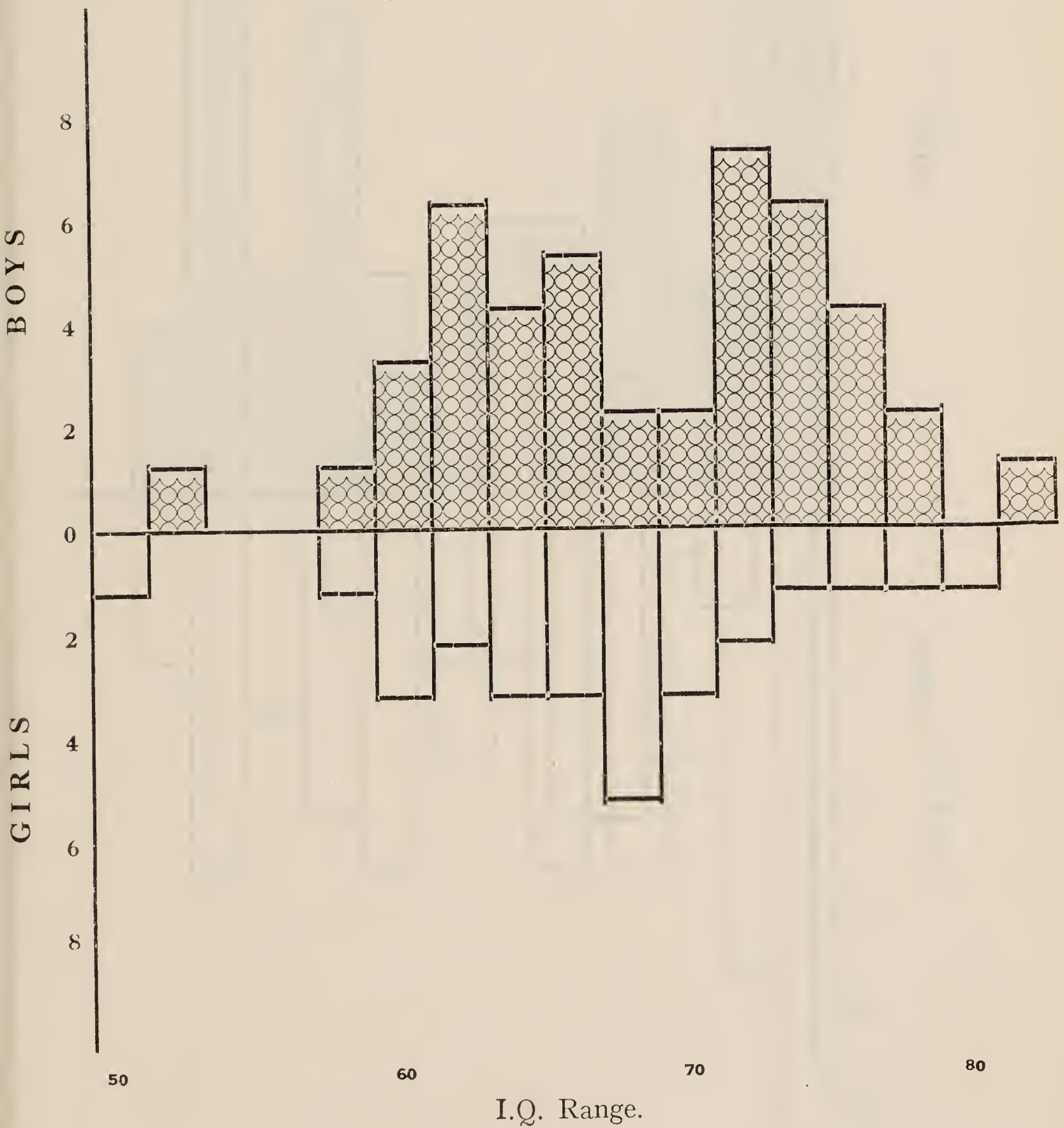
TOTAL ON NOMINAL ROLL
(Hatched area—Physically handicapped pupils).



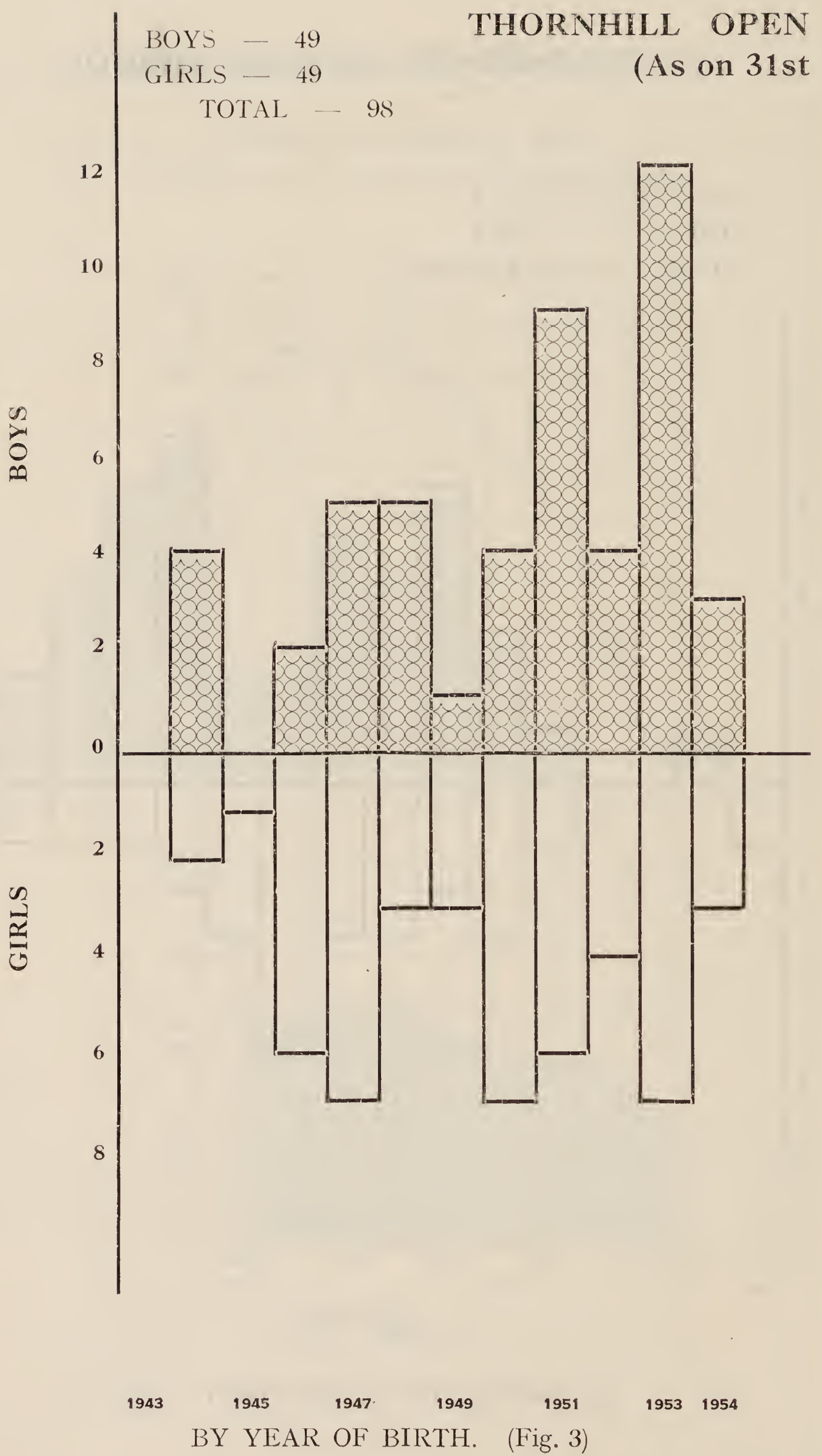
(Fig. 1)

CLAREMONT SPECIAL SCHOOL

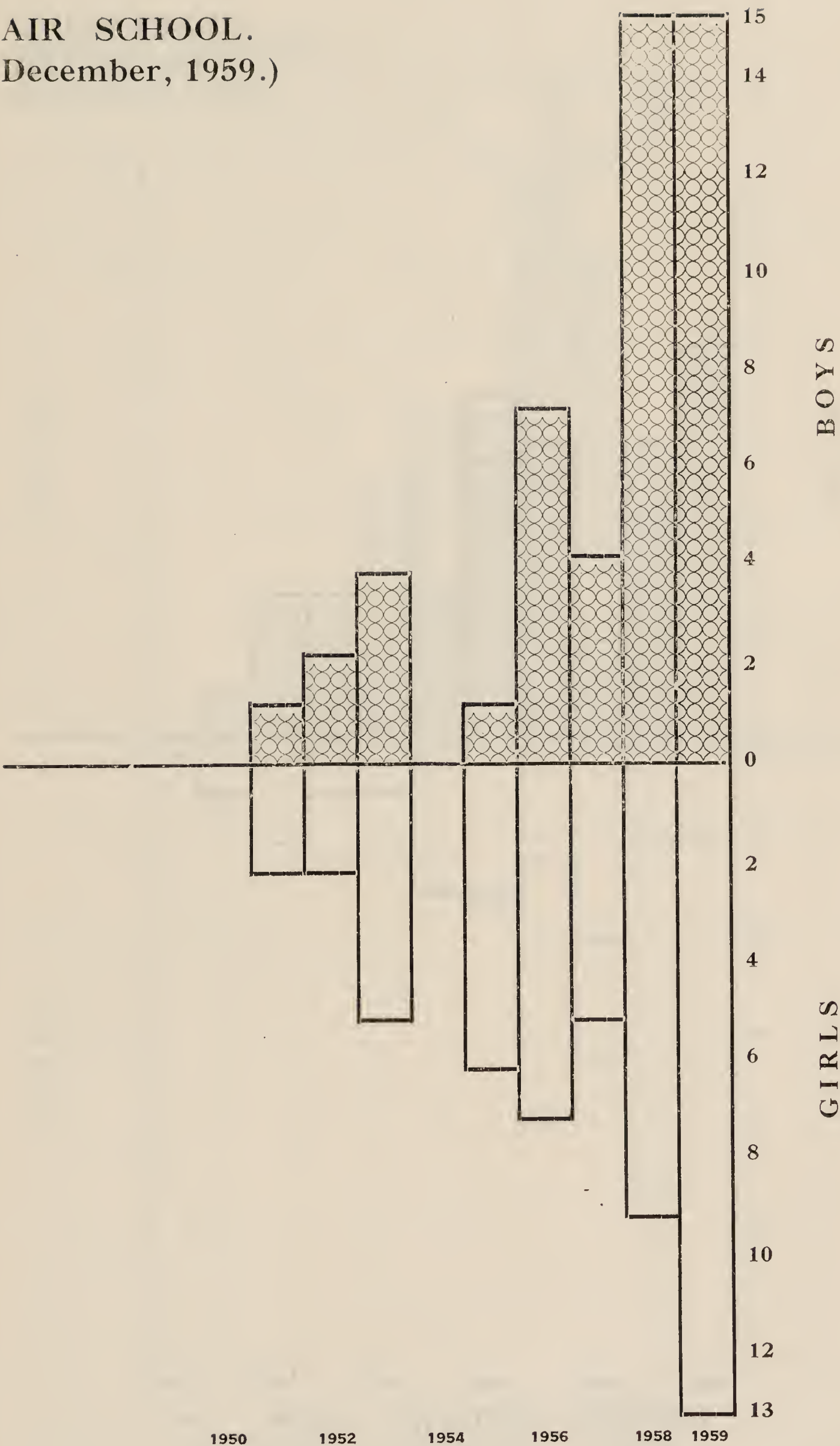
BOYS—mean I.Q. 68.4
 GIRLS—,, ,, 69.6
 TOTAL : Average I.Q.—68.9



BY INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT. (Fig. 4)



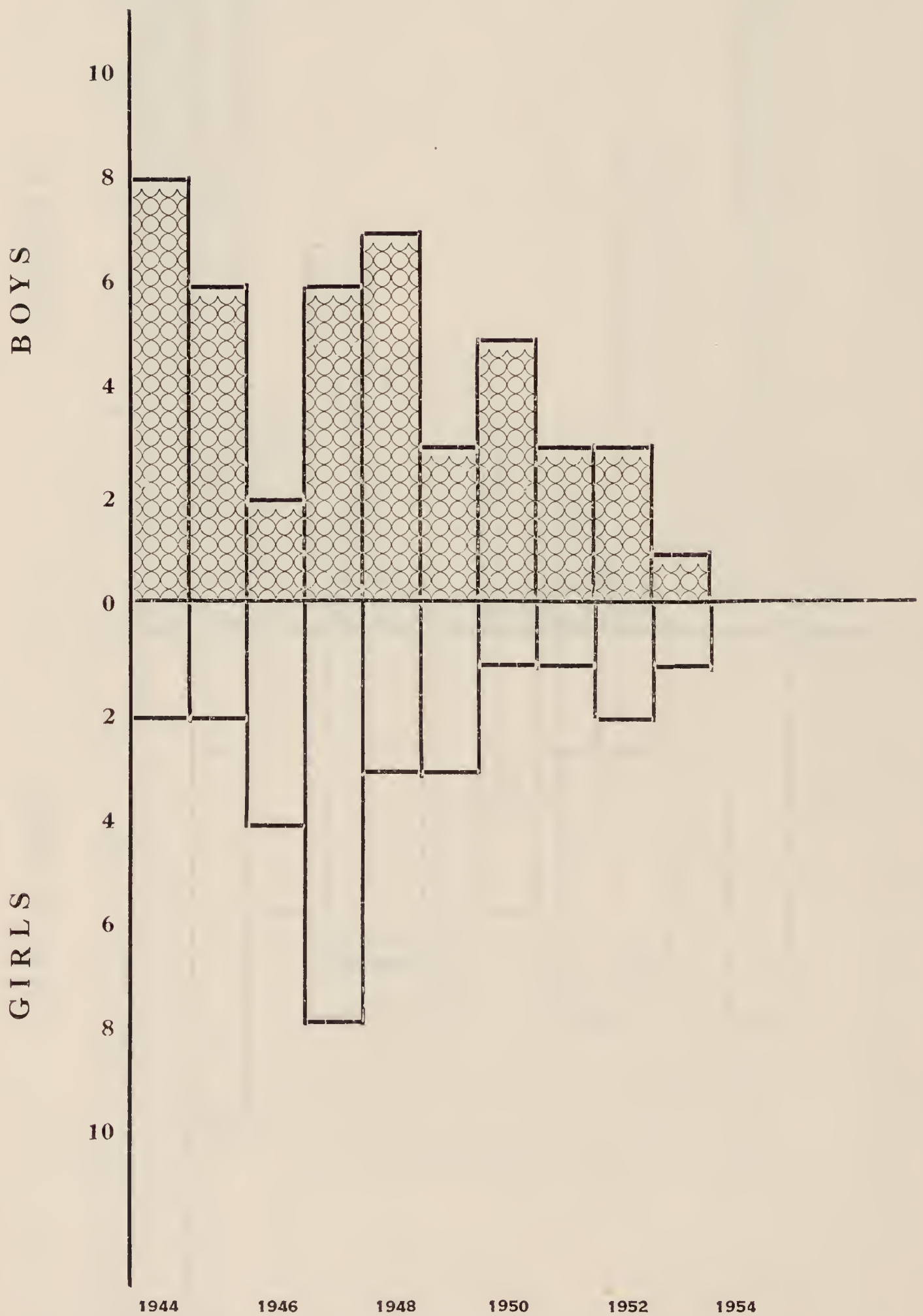
AIR SCHOOL.
December, 1959.)



BY YEAR OF ADMISSION. (Fig. 2)

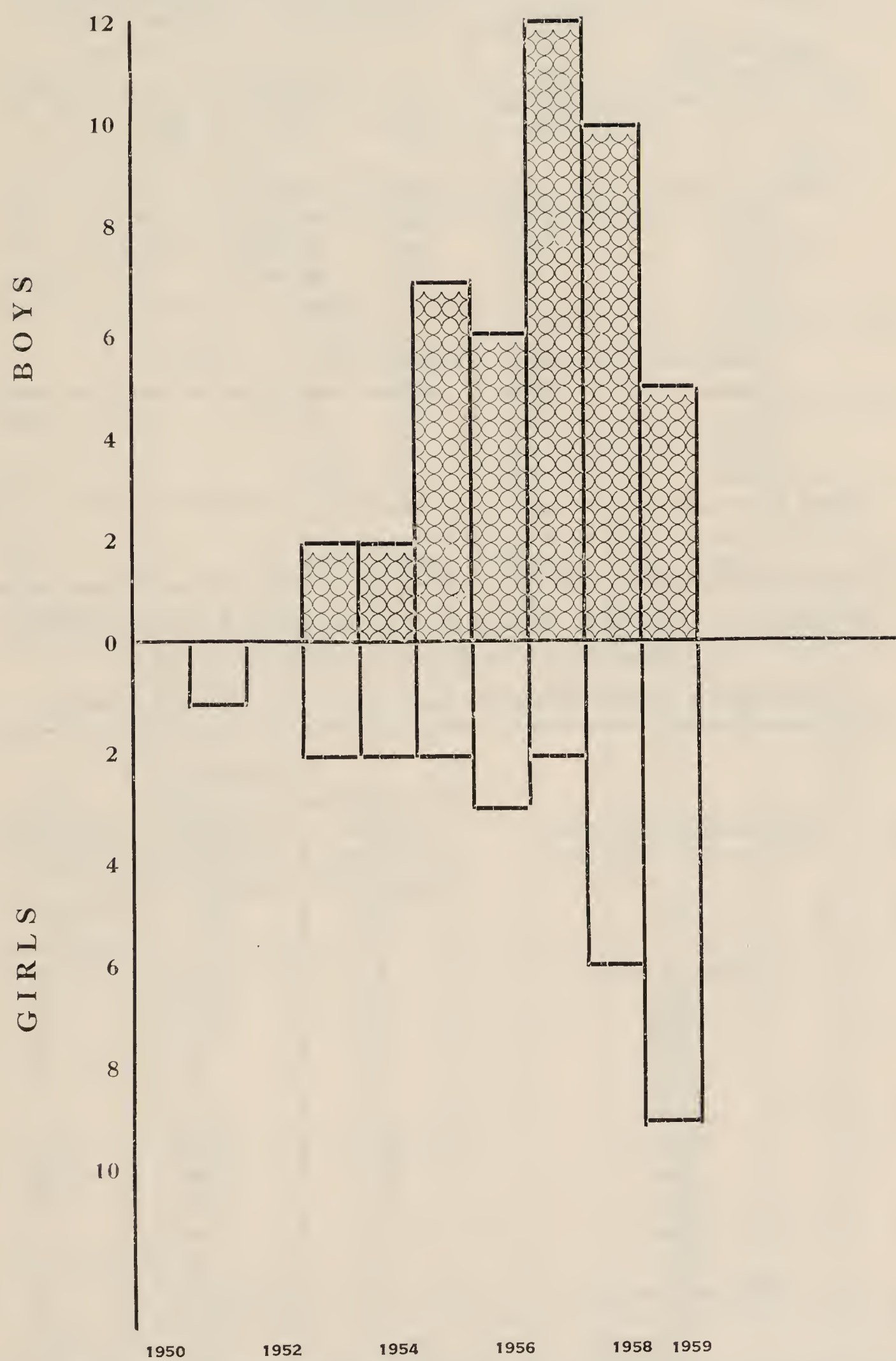
CLAREMONT
(As on 31st

BOYS — 44
GIRLS — 27
TOTAL — 71



BY YEAR OF BIRTH (Fig. 5)

SPECIAL SCHOOL
December, 1959)



BY YEAR OF ADMISSION (Fig. 6)

TABLE I. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	Number of Pupils Inspected (2)	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	%age of Col. (2) (4)	No. (5)	%age of Col. (2) (6)
1955 and later	117	112	95.73	5	4.27
1954	1,046	1,038	99.24	8	.76
1953	302	298	98.68	4	1.32
1952	23	20	86.96	3	13.04
1951	17	17	100.	—	—
1950	9	9	100.	—	—
1949	935	935	100.	—	—
1948	966	958	99.17	8	.83
1947	237	235	99.16	2	.84
1946	14	14	100.	—	—
1945	20	20	100.	—	—
1944 and earlier	400	398	99.5	2	.5
Total ..	4,086	4,054	99.22	32	.78

TABLE II. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Age Groups inspected (By year of birth) (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IV (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
1955 and later	1	9	10
1954	18	118	134
1953	7	41	46
1952	2	4	6
1951	1	1	2
1950	—	—	—
1949	65	79	140
1948	70	54	123
1947	37	18	53
1946	3	1	4
1945	1	3	4
1944 and earlier	35	11	43
Total ..	240	339	565

TABLE III. INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	23,864
(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	1,370
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	205
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	185

DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR

TABLE IV. PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS							
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total	
		(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)
4	Skin	9	2	2	2	29	4	40	8
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision ..	25	14	35	7	186	68	246	89
	<i>b.</i> Squint ..	17	6	—	—	6	2	23	8
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	2	2	—	—	15	12	17	14
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing ..	2	4	1	1	8	9	11	14
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	4	2	—	3	8	2	12	7
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	2	1	—	1	1	1	3	3
7	Nose and Throat ..	53	87	2	—	25	29	80	116
8	Speech	4	21	1	—	5	1	10	22
9	Lymphatic Glands ..	3	6	—	—	—	4	3	10
10	Heart	7	13	—	2	3	3	10	18
11	Lungs	4	7	—	—	2	6	6	13
12	Developmental—								
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ..	—	1	1	—	2	2	3	3
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	2	2	1	—	—	22	3	24
13	Orthopædic—								
	<i>a.</i> Posture ..	4	1	2	5	46	8	52	14
	<i>b.</i> Feet ..	4	6	—	—	1	—	5	6
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	2	6	—	1	4	4	6	11
14	Nervous System—								
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	2
15	Psychological—								
	<i>a.</i> Development	1	3	—	—	—	3	1	6
	<i>b.</i> Stability ..	—	1	—	—	1	4	1	5
16	Abdomen	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1
17	Other	46	13	1	—	18	10	65	23

(T) Treatment

(O) Observation

TABLE V. SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Special Inspections	
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
4	Skin	10	12
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision ..	8	1
	<i>b.</i> Squint ..	—	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	5	—
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing ..	1	4
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	3	2
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	3	1
7	Nose and Throat ..	3	2
8	Speech	9	6
9	Lymphatic Glands ..	1	2
10	Heart	2	2
11	Lungs	—	1
12	Developmental—		
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ..	1	7
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	4	18
13	Orthopædic—		
	<i>a.</i> Posture ..	2	10
	<i>b.</i> Feet ..	—	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	4	6
14	Nervous System—		
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy ..	1	2
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	—	1
15	Psychological—		
	<i>a.</i> Development	—	1
	<i>b.</i> Stability .	1	3
16	Abdomen	—	—
17	Other	44	122

TABLE VI.

EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	314
Errors of refraction (including squint) ..	1,086
Total	1,400
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	943

TABLE VII.

DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear	55
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis	254
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	70
Received other forms of treatment	—
Total	379
Total No. of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids—	
(a) in 1959	1
(b) in previous years	7

TABLE VIII. ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	No. of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	7
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects.. .. .	34
Total ..	41

TABLE IX. DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III.).

	No. of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm— (i) Scalp	1
(ii) Body	4
Scabies	6
Impetigo	49
Other Skin Diseases	168
Total ..	228

TABLE X. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

No. of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	24
---	----

TABLE XI. SPEECH THERAPY.

No. of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	28
--	----

TABLE XII. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	No. of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	2,185
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination	822
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above. Please specify :	
Miscellaneous Hospital Treatment ..	160
Diphtheria (a) Primary injection ..	80
(b) Reinforcing injection	45
Poliomyelitis (a) Primary injection ..	3,269
(b) Reinforcing injection	3,590
Total (a) — (d) ..	10,151

TABLE XIII.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY
THE AUTHORITY.

1.	No. of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—					
	(a)	At Periodic Inspections	..	..	..	13,295
	(b)	As Specials	..	..	..	767
					Total (1)	14,062
2.	No. found to require treatment					3,627
3.	No. offered treatment					2,842
4.	No. actually treated					2,571
5.	No. of attendances made by pupils for treatment including those recorded at heading 11 (h) overleaf					4,659
6.	Half-days devoted to : Periodic (School) Inspection					90
	Treatment					743
					Total (6)	833
7.	Fillings : Permanent Teeth					1,872
	Temporary Teeth					575
					Total (7)	2,447
8.	No. of teeth filled : Permanent Teeth					1,512
	Temporary Teeth					509
					Total (8)	2,021
9.	Extractions : Permanent Teeth					642
	Temporary Teeth					2,067
					Total (9)	2,709
10.	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					2

11.	Orthodontics :	(a)	Cases commenced during the year	..	80
		(b)	Cases brought forward from previous year		21
		(c)	Cases completed during the year	..	40
		(d)	Cases discontinued during the year	..	8
		(e)	Pupils treated with appliances	..	86
		(f)	Removable appliances fitted	.. ..	79
		(g)	Fixed appliances fitted	.. ..	1
		(h)	Total attendances	.. ..	671
12.	No. of pupils supplied with artificial teeth	.. ..	..	14	
13.	Other operations :	(a)	Permanent Teeth	.. ..	537
		(b)	Temporary Teeth	.. ..	632
Total (13)					1,169

TABLE XIV.

CHILDREN FOUND TO HAVE HAD TONSILLECTOMY.

Age Group	No. Inspected		Found to have had Tonsillectomy			
	Boys	Girls	Boys		Girls	
			No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
1955 and later ..	71	46	1	1.41	—	—
1954	575	471	22	3.83	12	2.55
1953	170	131	4	2.35	3	2.29
1952	14	10	—	—	—	—
1951	12	4	4	33.33	—	—
1950	5	4	—	—	—	—
1949	422	498	55	13.03	64	12.87
1948	549	420	96	17.49	65	15.48
1947	172	64	42	24.42	6	9.38
1946	10	4	3	30.0	—	—
1945	14	6	3	21.43	—	—
1944 and earlier	226	174	39	17.26	23	13.22
Additional Periodic ..	68	60	5	7.35	4	6.67
	2,308	1,892	274	11.43	177	9.36

